



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
2300 E STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20372-5300

IN REPLY REFER TO

BUMEDINST 6320.82 CH-2
BUMED-631
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BUMED INSTRUCTION 6320.82 CHANGE TRANSMITTAL 2

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
To: Ships and Stations Having Dental Personnel

Subj: DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY STANDARDS OF ORAL HEALTH CARE

Encl: (1) Replacement page 29 and revised page 30

1. Purpose. To incorporate the Periodontal Screening and Recording (PSR) method into the oral diagnostic procedures as the standard of care for initial periodontal evaluation.

2. Action. Remove pages 29 and 30 of the current instruction and replace with enclosure (1). Retain this change transmittal in front of the basic instruction.


D. F. HAGEN

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BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY

2300 E STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20372-5300

IN REPLY REFER TO

BUMEDINST 6320.82 CH-1

BUMED-631

1 Nov 93

BUMED INSTRUCTION 6320.82 CHANGE TRANSMITTAL 1

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
To: Ships and Stations Having Dental Personnel

Subj: DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY STANDARDS OF ORAL HEALTH CARE

Encl: (1) Revised Contents Page and Pages 75-84

1. Purpose. To delineate procedures for the use of acid etch, resin bonded, fixed partial dentures. Retain this change transmittal in front of the basic instruction.
2. Action. Remove the contents page and pages 75-84 of current instruction and replace with enclosure (1).


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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20372-5120

IN REPLY REFER TO
BUMEDINST 6320.82
BUMED-631
28 Aug 92

BUMED INSTRUCTION 6320.82

From: Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery
To: Ships and Stations Having Dental Personnel

Subj: DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY STANDARDS OF ORAL HEALTH CARE

Ref: (a) CNO memo 5215 Ser 093(932D5)/859 of 15 Jul 87 (NOTAL)
(b) SECNAVINST 6600.2
(c) SECNAVINST 6600.3

Encl: (1) Standards of Care Navy Dental Corps

1. Purpose. To provide policy guidance concerning the level of oral health care being provided within Department of the Navy (DON) medical treatment facilities (MTFs) and dental treatment facilities (DTFs) ashore, afloat, and in the field.

2. Cancellation. NAVMEDCOMINST 6320.27.

3. Background. The DON is committed to providing the highest quality oral health care to all eligible beneficiaries. Per reference (a), this instruction requires that all dental health care providers follow enclosure (1) to ensure the excellence of oral health care to all beneficiaries. References (b) and (c) provide further guidance.

4. Applicability and Scope. Applies to all military (active duty and Reserve) and civilian dental health care providers assigned to Navy and Marine Corps outpatient DTFs, both fixed and nonfixed, and dental departments of MTFs.

5. Action. Use enclosure (1) as guidelines for the standards of oral health care provided to dental patients.

6. Forms

a. The following forms are available from the Federal Supply System through normal supply procurement procedures:

SF 522 (10-76), Medical Record, Authorization for Administration of Anesthesia and for Performance of Operations and Other Procedures, NSN 7540-00-634-4165.

SF 515 (9-77), Tissue Examination, NSN 7540-00-634-4155.



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b. The following forms are available from the Navy Supply System and may be requisitioned per NAVSUP P-2002D:

SF 603 (10-75 exception), Health Record - Dental,
S/N 0105-LF-011-9300.

SF 603A (10-75 exception), Health Record - Dental,
(Continuation) S/N 0105-LF-011-9400.

DD 2322 (10-83), Dental Laboratory Work Authorization,
S/N 0102-LF-002-3220.



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STANDARDS OF CARE, NAVY DENTAL CORPS

Introduction

1. The Navy Dental Corps is responsible for providing high quality oral health care to active duty members of the Navy and Marine Corps, to assure a healthy, disease-free oral cavity throughout the span of each active member's Navy career. All other eligible beneficiaries will receive the same quality of dental care on a space available basis. One process for the assurance of this high quality of care is to ensure by self-evaluation and peer review that the care provided conforms to established standards of care.
2. These standards of oral health care establish specific objectives and anticipated levels of performance for specific dental procedures that must be met by direct oral health care providers. These standards are guidelines for clinical care, are not all inclusive, and are not intended to be inflexible legal tenets. These standards must be periodically revised to meet patient needs, changes in operational readiness requirements, and changes in the profession as a whole. Following current directives that have an impact on quality of care issues, these standards are intended to judge the quality of oral health care provided by the general practitioner or the specialist. Because patients are treated in a wide variety of environments and the circumstances of delivery may fluctuate, individual performance evaluations must ensure sufficient latitude for professional judgment.
3. The standards of care are presented by specialty areas. All treatment procedures performed should be of such a level of quality that favorable, predictable results will routinely occur. Patients should be advised that any treatment modality, however acceptable, may not be successful in every case. Extrinsic and intrinsic factors, both biological and psychological, may preclude success for any particular treatment. The major risks and complications should be discussed with the patient and appropriately documented in the record. In understanding standards of care, the provider and the evaluator must appreciate the differences between goals, criteria, and standards.
 - a. Goal. The result or achievement toward which effort is directed. Although a fundamental and comprehensive statement of quality, it may not be attainable for all patients or for each procedure on every occasion.
 - b. Criterion. A standard on which a judgment is based.

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c. Objective. A goal that the planned, undertaken, or discussed procedure is intended to achieve.

d. Standard. An agreed upon level of excellence. Meeting the standard of a procedure ensures adequate acceptable quality of care.

4. In establishing a standard, the relative importance of meeting a criterion or a series of criteria is established and evaluated as being in one of the following categories:

a. Category 1. A criterion or criteria that should be attained in the majority of cases.

b. Category 2. A criterion or criteria that is satisfied in most cases.

c. Category 3. A criterion or criteria that is satisfied in a few cases.

5. Guidelines to manage the medically compromised dental patient when published by the American Dental Association (ADA) will be incorporated into future standards of care (SOC). In addition, dental specialty-specific standards developed by ADA approved specialty organizations will be included.

ENDODONTICS

1. Introduction

a. Definition of Endodontics. Endodontics is the branch of dentistry that is concerned with the morphology, physiology, and pathology of the human dental pulp and periradicular tissues. Its study and practice encompass the basic clinical sciences including biology of the normal pulp; the etiology, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases and injuries of the pulp; and associated periradicular conditions.

b. Scope of Care. The scope of endodontics is defined by the educational requirements for the training of a specialist in this discipline. The scope of endodontics includes but is not limited to the differential diagnosis and treatment of oral pain of pulpal or periradicular origin; vital pulp therapy such as pulp capping and pulpotomy; root canal therapy such as pulpectomy, nonsurgical treatment of root canal systems with or without periradicular pathosis of pulpal origin, and the obturation of these root canal systems; selective surgical removal of pathological tissues resulting from pulpal pathosis; intentional replantation and replantation of avulsed teeth; surgical removal of tooth structure such as in apicoectomy, hemisection, and root amputation; endodontic implants; bleaching of discolored dentin and enamel; retreatment of teeth previously treated endodontically; and treatment procedures related to coronal restorations by means of post or cores involving the root canal space.

c. Considerations. Dental practitioners must perform endodontic therapy consistent with their educational training and clinical experience. Keeping in mind that dentistry's main goal is for the public to maintain a healthy, natural dentition, every dental practitioner is expected to be able to recognize and effectively treat pulpal injuries and diseases that are commonplace and within the skills acquired by graduates of dental schools in the United States. Endodontic cases that are beyond the training, experience, and expertise of individual practitioners should be referred to practitioners who can more appropriately provide for their care. All endodontic treatment procedures that are undertaken should be of such quality that predictable and favorable results will routinely occur.

d. Endodontic Examination and Diagnosis. Many features of evaluation in endodontics are common to all dental practice.

(1) An adequate medical and dental history with contemporaneous visual and radiographic examination provides basic information. Some indicated tests such as thermal, electrical, percussion, palpation, and mobility should be

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accomplished. Additional periodontal examination, trans-illumination, and bacteriologic testing may be indicated. Radiographs may be taken from more than one angle to gain a better perspective of the morphology of the tooth or teeth in question. Bitewing radiographs, occlusal plane films, and radiographs of the contralateral and opposing teeth may also be necessary.

(2) Recall some patients at periodic intervals to compare some of the examination data from one time interval to another for an accurate diagnosis. At times it is advisable to secure radiographs from previous practitioners or the existing dental record to have a better idea of the evolution of a situation as it presents to the clinician at a given point in time.

e. Endodontic Treatment Planning, Records, and Recalls

(1) Appropriate treatment is predicated on an accurate analysis of all diagnostic data. Treatment planning should include the determination of strategic importance of the tooth or teeth considered for treatment, the expectations of the patient, the prognosis, and other factors such as excessively curved canals, periodontal disease, occlusion, tooth fractures, calcified or occluded canals, and teeth with unusual or abnormal canal morphology.

(2) Treatment records should include the chief complaints or patient comment, clinical impression, results of diagnostic tests and clinical examination, diagnosis and treatment, required pre-operative, inter-operative, and post-operative radiographs, and followup radiographs. Records should also include patient commentaries or complaints before and during treatment, or at any subsequent post-operative examination.

(3) Endodontic care includes the evaluation of the patient's post-operative response to the clinical procedures. Endodontic providers should encourage patients to return at intervals appropriate for the procedures undertaken to allow clinical evaluation.

2. Vital Pulp Treatment Procedures. Vital pulp treatments attempt to preserve the integrity and function of the pulpal tissue in whole or in part as dictated by the degree of pulpal injury. Compounds used in vital pulp therapy, such as calcium hydroxide, should meet the guidelines of the ADA Council on Dental Therapeutics. The permanent filling should be inserted as soon as it is advisable.

a. Protective Base

(1) Procedure. A protective filling material is placed at the base of a deep preparation to act as protective barrier to minimize further injury and permit possible healing and repair of the pulp.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(b) Location of a radiopaque base between the permanent restoration and the dentin (category 1).

(c) Normal responsiveness to electrical and thermal vitality test (category 2).

(d) No breakdown of the periradicular supporting tissues (category 1).

b. Indirect Pulp Capping

(1) Procedure. In a tooth that has a carious lesion near the dental pulp, a protective dressing or cement is placed over a layer of remaining dentin which, if removed, might expose the pulp. The purpose is to protect the pulp against possible injury and to stimulate healing and repair.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(b) Radiopaque base should be adjacent to but not in contact with the pulpal tissue (category 1).

(c) Normal responsiveness to electrical and thermal vitality tests (category 2).

(d) No breakdown of the periradicular supporting tissues (category 1).

(e) No resorption or abnormal canal calcification as determined by periodic radiographic evaluation (category 1).

c. Direct Pulp Capping

(1) Procedure. In a tooth with a pulp exposure, a protective dressing or cement is placed directly over the vital

pulp at the site of the exposure to protect the pulp against further injury and to stimulate healing or repair.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(b) Radiopaque base should be adjacent to and in contact with the pulpal tissue (category 1).

(c) Normal responsiveness to electrical and thermal vitality tests (category 2).

(d) No breakdown of the periradicular supporting tissue (category 1).

(e) No resorption or abnormal canal calcification as determined by periodic radiographic evaluation (category 1).

d. Pulpotomy

(1) Procedure. Pulpotomy is the surgical amputation of the coronal portion of vital pulp. It is used to preserve the vitality and function of the remaining radicular portion of the pulp. As a treatment procedure, it is indicated for exposed vital pulps of primary teeth. It is a useful interim procedure for permanent teeth with immature root formation (apexogenesis) or as an emergency procedure until root canal treatment can be accomplished.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(b) For permanent teeth radiographic evidence of canal and root apex closure sometimes accompanied by an increase in root length (category 2).

(c) No breakdown of the periradicular supporting tissues (category 1).

(d) No resorption or abnormal canal calcification as determined by periodic radiographic evaluation (category 1).

3. Nonsurgical Endodontic Procedures

a. Primary Teeth

(1) Procedure

(a) Endodontic therapy for nonresponsive, pulpally necrotic primary teeth involves chemical and mechanical treatment, on a biologic basis, of the root canal system to eliminate pulpal and periradicular disease and to promote healing and repair of the periradicular tissues. When a permanent successor tooth is evident, the debridement and shaping of the canal system is followed by obturation with an absorbable filling material. When no permanent successor tooth is present, the canals of the deciduous tooth are obturated with an acceptable endodontic filling material.

(b) All canals are shaped, cleansed, and disinfected using aseptic technique. Proper access is dictated by the size and shape of the pulp chamber as well as by the tooth position in the arch. In all cases, the entire roof of the pulp chamber must be removed. Debridement, enlargement, and disinfection of all canals are accomplished under rubber dam isolation, and with microbial culture and sensitivity determinations when indicated. An absorbable material, which has been demonstrated to be biologically acceptable, is used to obturate the root canal system in three dimensions.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms
(category 2).

(b) Radiographic appearance of a dense, three-dimensional filling that is not excessively overextended or underextended in a patent canal. No ledges or perforations are created (category 1).

(c) No further breakdown of supporting tissues
(category 1).

(d) Resorption of root structures and absorption of filling material occur at the appropriate age when a permanent successor tooth is present (category 2).

b. Permanent Teeth

(1) Procedure

(a) Endodontic therapy for permanent teeth involves chemical and mechanical treatment, on a biologic basis, of the root canal system to eliminate pulpal and periradicular disease and to promote healing and repair of periradicular tissues. The debridement and shaping of the canal system is followed by obturation with a biologically acceptable nonabsorbable semisolid or solid core root canal filling material.

(b) All canals are shaped, cleansed, and disinfected using an aseptic technique. Proper access is dictated by the size and shape of the pulp chamber as well as by the tooth position in the arch. In all cases, the entire roof of the chamber must be removed. Debridement, enlargement, and disinfection of all canals and obturation are accomplished under rubber dam isolation. When indicated, microbial culture and sensitivity determinations are used. Obturation is the three-dimensional filling of the entire root canal system as close to the cemento-dentinal junction as possible. Minimal amounts of root canal sealers, which have been demonstrated to be biologically compatible, are used in conjunction with core filling material to establish an adequate seal.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(b) Radiographic appearance of a dense, three-dimensional filling which extends as close as possible to the cemento-dentinal junction, i.e., without gross overextension or underfilling in the presence of a patent canal. No ledges or perforations are created (category 1).

(c) No further breakdown of supporting tissues.

1. If a tooth had a periradicular radiolucency indicative of periradicular disease of pulpal origin at the time of obturation, then recall radiographs taken 6 months or later. Postobturation should demonstrate a reduction in the size of the radiolucency or an intact lamina dura and a normal periodontal ligament space around the entire root or roots under observation (category 1).

2. If a tooth had a normal periodontal ligament space and an intact lamina dura around the root or roots at the time of obturation, then recall radiographs taken 6 months or later postobturation should demonstrate a similar appearance (category 1).

c. Apexification

(1) Procedure. Apexification is a method of inducing apical closure or apical development of the root or roots of an incompletely formed permanent tooth in which the pulp is necrotic. It may involve several treatments over an extended period of time. Calcium hydroxide compounds are most commonly used for this purpose. When closure of the root is complete, endodontic therapy must be performed.

(2) Criteria

- (a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms
(category 2).
- (b) Radiographic evidence of apical closure
(category 2).
- (c) No breakdown of the supporting tissues
(category 1)
- (d) No lateral root surface pathosis (category 1).

4. Surgical Endodontic Procedures

a. Incision and Drainage - Soft Tissue

(1) Procedure. Incision and drainage is a surgical procedure designed to release accumulated byproducts of tissue breakdown, collect samples for bacteriologic analysis, and provide a more favorable gradient and pathway for drainage. It is usually indicated for the relief of swelling that is ordinarily fluctuant and localized.

(2) Criteria

- (a) No adverse signs or symptoms (category 1).
- (b) Relief of acute symptoms (category 1).
- (c) Reduction of localized swelling that is usually fluctuant (category 1).
- (d) Return of soft tissue architecture to normal
(category 1).

b. Incision and Drainage - Soft and Hard Tissue

(1) Procedure. Incision and drainage through both the soft and hard tissues is a surgical procedure performed to liberate accumulated byproducts of tissue breakdown by surgical reflection of the soft tissue and penetration of the cortical plate in the periradicular area. This is usually indicated for the relief of pain thought to be caused by a buildup of fluid within the bony tissue.

(2) Criteria

- (a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms
(category 1).

(b) Relief of acute symptoms (category 1).

(c) No damage to root structure because of the procedure (category 1).

(d) Soft tissue closure over the surgical site without fenestration (category 1).

(e) No damage to alveolar bone, roots of adjacent teeth, or other anatomical structures (category 1).

c. Periradicular Curettage

(1) Procedure. Periradicular curettage consists of the removal of soft tissue or foreign material around the root apex without the removal of the root end. It may be indicated for the treatment of:

(a) A marked apical or lateral overextension of filling materials into the periradicular tissues.

(b) A periradicular lesion that is enlarging after root canal treatment as noted on followup radiographs.

(c) A periradicular lesion that has not decreased in size 1 to 2 years after the completion of root canal treatment.

(d) A persistent sinus tract or periradicular inflammation.

(e) Cases where a biopsy or surgical exploration of the area is deemed necessary.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 1).

(b) Alveolar bone around the treated roots has a normal appearance with the establishment of a normal periodontal ligament space and lamina dura (category 2).

(c) No damage to adjacent teeth or anatomical structures (category 1).

(d) No sinus tract present (category 1).

d. Apicoectomy

(1) Procedure. Apicoectomy is a surgical procedure in which a portion of the apex of the root of the tooth is removed to evaluate or improve the apical seal of the root canal filling; to facilitate the access for creation of a root end preparation for retrofilling; to allow for curettage behind the root; or to remove a portion of the root which cannot be obturated with a root canal filling material because of severe curvature of the root, calcification of the root canal space, etc. This procedure may include curettage of the apical tissue. It may be indicated for the treatment of:

(a) A marked apical or lateral overextension of filling materials into the periradicular tissues.

(b) A periradicular lesion that is enlarging after root canal treatment followup radiographs.

(c) A periradicular lesion that has not decreased in size 1 to 2 years after the completion of root canal treatment.

(d) A persistent sinus tract or periradicular inflammation.

(e) Cases where apical curettage revealed an inadequate seal of a previously obturated root.

(f) An unfilled apical portion of the root canal system not accessible from a coronal approach.

(g) Roots that cannot be retreated nonsurgically because of an obstruction such as a post or a separated instrument.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 1).

(b) Alveolar bone at the apex of the surgically altered roots should have a normal appearance with reestablishment of a normal periodontal ligament space and lamina dura (category 2).

(c) Sinus tract, if previously present, has healed (category 1).

(d) No damage to adjacent teeth or anatomical structures (category 1).

e. Retrofilling

(1) Procedure. Retrofilling is an additional procedure following apicoectomy by which a cavity is prepared in the root end or lateral aspect of the root and a biologically acceptable filling material is placed into that prepared cavity. It may be indicated for:

(a) Correction of resorptive defects of the root.

(b) Cases where the dentist is unable to negotiate a canal in a routine manner because of iatrogenic problems or anatomic complications of the canal system.

(c) Previously treated teeth where an inadequate apical seal is indicated by a periradicular lesion that is enlarging or has not decreased in size over a 2-year period after completion of root canal filling.

(d) A tooth that has periradicular symptoms or pathosis and has a post crown which cannot be removed.

(e) Treatment of root perforations.

(f) Persistent or recurrent signs or symptoms of lateral or periapical pathosis which cannot be sealed by a nonsurgical approach.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 1).

(b) Alveolar bone at the site of repair of the treated roots should have normal appearance with the establishment of a normal periodontal ligament space and lamina dura (category 2).

(c) Retrofilling material should be within confines of the root and seal the root canal (category 1).

(d) Scatter of retrofilling material into the surrounding bone is minimal (category 1).

(e) No damage to adjacent teeth or anatomical structures (category 1).

f. Biopsy

(1) Procedure. A biopsy involves the surgical removal of

a hard or soft tissue specimen for microscopic examination. It is indicated for cases where:

(a) Tissue or foreign material is removed at or near the surgical site.

(b) Unusual tissues are noted on clinical or radiographic examination.

(c) A medical history indicates the merits of obtaining a biopsy of all tissues removed.

(2) Criteria. A diagnosis is established or confirmed by microscopic examination of tissues or foreign materials (category 1).

g. Hemisection and Bisection (Bicuspidization)

(1) Procedure. Hemisection and bisection (bicuspidization) are surgical procedures that are used to separate a portion of the crown and one or more of the roots of a multirooted tooth. Both procedures are most commonly performed on mandibular molars. Hemisections may be performed, however, on maxillary molars or maxillary bicuspid. In all cases the separated segments may be removed or restored. In certain instances it is feasible to section a mandibular molar into two distinct separate roots. Subsequently, the roots are restored as though each root was a bicuspid root. The procedure just described is commonly called a bisection. Hemisection necessitates root canal treatment on all roots to be retained. Bisection necessitates root canal therapy on all canals in each root. In each case it is preferable to complete the root canal treatment before the surgery. Hemisections and bisections may be indicated for:

(a) "Through and through" periodontal furcation defects.

(b) An untreatable infrabony defect of one root of a multirooted tooth.

(c) Fracture of a crown extending into the furcation.

(d) Teeth where nonsurgical endodontic treatment is not possible or unsuccessful for at least one root, and periradicular surgery is not possible.

(e) Teeth where a vertical root fracture exists and is confined to the root that is to be separated and extracted.

(f) Cases where secondary periodontal involvement is present.

(g) Cases of persistent sinus tract, recurrent periradicular pathosis, or periradicular inflammation where nonsurgical retreatment or periradicular surgery is not possible.

(h) Inoperative or uncorrectable resorptive defects of the root.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 1).

(b) Elimination of furcation and periodontal pockets: total amputation of the coronal portion of the tooth that is associated with the root that will be removed (category 1).

(c) Adequate supporting structure surrounding the remaining roots to maintain the function of the tooth (category 1).

(d) Remaining root in satisfactory condition (category 1).

(e) Adequate root canal fillings in the remaining roots (category 1).

h. Root Amputation

(1) Procedure. Root amputation involves the removal of a root of a multirooted tooth without the removal of the corresponding portion of the crown when insufficient periodontal supporting tissue warrants the removal of this section of the tooth. Root canal treatment should be performed on all roots not being amputated, preferably before the surgical procedure. Root amputation is indicated for:

(a) "Through and through" periodontal furcation defects.

(b) An untreatable infrabony defect of one root of a multirooted tooth.

(c) Fractures extending into the furcation.

(d) Teeth where nonsurgical endodontic treatment is not possible or unsuccessful for at least one root, and periradicular surgery is not possible.

(e) Teeth where a vertical root fracture exists and is confined to the root that is to be separated and extracted.

(f) Cases where secondary periodontal involvement is present.

(g) Cases of persistent sinus tract, periradicular inflammation, or periradicular pathosis where nonsurgical root canal therapy or periradicular surgery is not possible.

(h) Inoperative or uncorrectable resorptive defects of the root.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 1).

(b) Elimination of the furcation and periodontal pockets (category 2).

(c) Adequate supporting structure surrounding the remaining roots to maintain the function of the tooth (category 1).

(d) Adequate root canal fillings in the remaining roots (category 1).

(e) All external openings into the pulp chamber are sealed (category 1).

(f) Elimination of pre-operative signs and symptoms of pathosis (category 1).

i. Replantation of Avulsed Teeth

(1) Procedure. Replantation of the avulsed tooth involves the replacement of a tooth into its natural alveolus. The goal is normal attachment of the periodontal ligament and the return of normal function for the tooth. Success depends upon accomplishing the replantation as soon as possible after the accident and keeping the root moist during the extraoral period. The involved teeth should be stabilized for a period of time. If the pulp tissue is to be removed, it should occur within 2 weeks of the injury. The intracanal treatment usually consists of placement of calcium hydroxide, which may need to be replaced at periodic intervals, followed by placement of an acceptable root canal filling material. These teeth should be periodically reexamined following replantation.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(b) Proper anatomic placement of tooth back into the socket (category 1).

(c) Minimal resorption of the root structure of the tooth (category 2).

(d) No breakdown of periradicular supporting tissues (category 2).

(e) Maintenance of the tooth as a firm, functional member of the dentition (category 2).

j. Replantation or Transplantation: Intentional

(1) Procedure. Intentional replantation involves the clinical removal of a tooth from its alveolar socket, the apical retrograde sealing of the canals or lateral root defect with an inert filling material, and the insertion of the tooth back into its alveolar socket. It is indicated when nonsurgical root canal therapy is not possible or has not been successful or when conventional surgery is not advisable. In contrast to "replantation of the avulsed tooth," calcium hydroxide therapy is not normally used. Intentional transplantation involves the same procedures as the replantation except the tooth is transplanted into the socket of an extracting tooth. It is indicated when the extracted tooth's position is more important to the dentition than the transplant tooth position; for example, replacing an extracted first molar with a third molar. In most cases, root canal therapy is indicated before transplantation. These teeth should be periodically reexamined following replantation or transplantation.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(b) Proper anatomic orientation of tooth in the socket (category 1).

(c) Elimination or absence of periradicular pathosis although some root resorption may occur (category 2).

(d) No periodontal pathosis (category 2).

(e) Root length usually shortened, but minimally (category 1).

(f) Proper placement of the apical seals (category 1).

(g) Maintenance of the tooth as a firm, functional member of the dentition (category 2).

k. Endodontic Endosseous Implants

(1) Procedure. An endodontic implant involves the insertion of a biologically acceptable material into a previously prepared root canal and contiguous channel in the bone extending beyond the root apex. The purpose of the procedure is to increase the root-to-crown ratio and add stability to the tooth in the dental arch. The implant, with an adjunctive root canal sealer, must seal the apex of the root canal as well as any additional interfaces between root fragments through which the implant passes. Endodontic implants are indicated when:

(a) The tooth has strategic importance.

(b) The apical one-third of the supporting unit, consisting of tooth root and periodontal ligament, is stable.

(c) Adjacent anatomical structures are not compromised.

(d) The root canal system is negotiable.

(e) An unsatisfactory root-to-crown ratio is present that would jeopardize the success of conventional root canal treatment.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(b) Anatomical structures such as maxillary sinus, nasal fossa, mandibular canal, mental foramen, etc., are not compromised (category 1).

(c) Evidence that the implant material is placed within the cancellous alveolar bone (category 1).

(d) Implant does not penetrate the cortical plate of bone (category 1).

(e) Enhanced stability of the treated tooth (category 1).

(f) No communication of endodontic and periodontic lesions through the sulcus (category 1).

(g) All interfaces between the implant and the tooth are sealed (category 2).

5. Bleaching Procedures. Bleaching is the reduction of discoloration of a vital or pulpless tooth through the application of oxidizing agents to the available surfaces of the affected tooth coronal to the epithelial attachment. The degree of restoration to a normal shade and translucency of the tooth is dependent upon the cause of the discoloration, the severity of discoloration initially found in the tooth, and the duration of the discoloration.

a. Internal Bleaching

(1) Procedure. Internal bleaching is indicated for the discolored tooth that has previously received a root canal filling. Assuming that the previously placed seal of the root canal is adequate, hydrogen peroxide 30 to 35 percent, along with the application of other activating agents, is used to affect the oxidation process.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms
(category 1).

(b) Reduction in degree of discoloration
(category 2).

(c) Improvement in degree of translucency
(category 2).

(d) No cervical external root resorption
(category 1).

b. External Bleaching

(1) Procedure. External bleaching is indicated for the treatment of discolored vital teeth. Acid conditioning procedures along with oxidizing agents are used to accomplish the bleaching of the affected tooth. These agents are applied to the external surface of the tooth. This procedure is commonly indicated for teeth that are discolored because of endemic fluorosis or tetracycline staining.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms
(category 1).

(b) Reduction in the degree of discoloration
(category 2).

(c) No cervical external root resorption
(category 1).

6. Dowel (Post) and Core Restorations. See prosthodontics standards on page 67.

7. Post or Post and Core Removal

a. Procedure. Post and cores are removed for various reasons, including the following.

- (1) Loss of adequate retention.
- (2) Loss of the underlying root canal seal.
- (3) Recurrent caries.
- (4) Fracture of the post, core, or both.

b. Criteria

- (1) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 1).
- (2) Minimal adverse effects on the involved tooth
(category 1).
- (3) No damage to any other tooth or adjacent tissue
(category 1).

8. Nonsurgical Endodontic Retreatment

a. Procedure

(1) Nonsurgical endodontic retreatment is usually preferred to apicoectomy and retrofilling in teeth where the root canal system is accessible and amenable to reinstrumentation and obturation. Retreatment procedures involve the removal of the previously placed obturation materials in addition to the procedures normally used in nonsurgical endodontic treatment. Further efforts may be required to correct radicular defects and conditions such as ledges, calcifications, and separated instruments.

(2) Retreatment cases may vary greatly in complexity, requiring greater effort, time, and skill, and should be undertaken with due regard to the ability and experience of the practitioner. Retreatment may need to be augmented by other treatment modalities such as apexification or surgical

intervention. Nonsurgical endodontic retreatment is indicated for:

(a) An incompletely filled root canal system with a radiographically observable unfilled root canal space.

(b) Cases of unresolved periradicular pathosis and radiographic evidence of a deficiency in the quality of the root canal filling.

(c) Cases where removal of preexisting obturation materials is dictated by anticipated restorative or prosthetic procedures.

(d) Cases where persistent symptoms are associated with a previously treated tooth and there is reason to question the adequacy of previous endodontic debridement or obturation.

b. Criteria

(1) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(2) Radiographic appearance of a dense, three-dimensional filling which extends as close as possible to the cemento-dentinal junction, i.e., without gross overextension or underfilling in the presence of a patent canal. No additional ledges or perforations are created (category 1).

(3) No further breakdown of supporting tissues.

(a) If a tooth had a periradicular radiolucency indicative of periradicular disease of endodontic origin at the time of obturation, then recall radiographs taken 6 months or later after retreatment should demonstrate a reduction in the size of the radiolucency or an intact lamina dura and a normal periodontal ligament space around the entire root or roots under observation (category 1).

(b) If a tooth had a normal periodontal ligament space and an intact lamina dura around the root or roots at the time of retreatment, then recall radiographs taken 6 months or later after retreatment should demonstrate a similar appearance (category 1).

OPERATIVE DENTISTRY

1. Introduction

a. Definition of Operative Dentistry. Operative dentistry is the art and science that relates to the diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis of those defects of teeth which do not require full coverage for correction; the restoration of proper tooth form, function, and esthetics; and the maintenance of the physiological integrity of the teeth in harmonious relationship with the adjacent hard and soft tissues. Its study and practice encompass the basic clinical sciences including biology; the etiology, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of disease and injuries of the tooth; and the protection and preservation of the dental pulp and supporting tissues.

b. Scope of Care

(1) Dental practitioners are encouraged to perform operative dentistry procedures consistent with their educational training and clinical experience. Keeping in mind that dentistry's main goal is for the public to maintain a healthy, natural dentition, every dental practitioner is expected to be able to recognize and effectively treat dental diseases that are commonplace and within the skills acquired by graduates of dental schools in the United States and Canada. Operative dentistry cases that are beyond the training, experience, and expertise of individual practitioners should be referred to practitioners who can more appropriately provide for their care.

(2) The Navy Dental Corps endorses the Certification and Acceptance Programs of the American Dental Association's Council on Dental Therapeutics and Dental Materials, Instruments, and Equipment. These programs, as well as compliance with standards for operative dentistry instruments and materials developed by the American National Standards Institute, are voluntary in nature. Whenever feasible, instruments, materials, and therapeutic agents used by the practitioner should be those whose manufacturers or distributors have enrolled in these programs and whose products comply with the programs' minimum requirements for safety and efficacy.

c. Examination and Diagnosis. Many features of evaluation in operative dentistry are common to all dental practice. These elements are herein abbreviated yet included for purposes of completeness.

An adequate medical and dental history with contemporaneous visual and radiographic examination provides basic information. Some indicated tests such as thermal, percussion, palpation,

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periodontal probing, and mobility, should be accomplished. Additional periodontal examination, transillumination, and bacteriologic testing may be indicated. Bitewing radiographs, occlusal plane films, and radiographs of the contralateral and opposing teeth may be necessary. Recall of some patients at periodic intervals to compare some of the examination data from one time interval to another to make an accurate diagnosis may also be necessary.

d. Treatment Planning and Records

(1) Appropriate treatment is predicated on an accurate analysis of all diagnostic data. Treatment planning should include the determination of strategic importance of the tooth or teeth considered for treatment, the prognosis, and other factors.

(2) Treatment records should include the chief complaints or patient comments (Subjective), the results of diagnostic tests, clinical examination, and clinical impression (Objective findings), assessment of the examination process (Assessment), and a treatment plan to correct the patient's chief complaint and subsequent findings (Plans).

(3) Operative dentistry care includes the evaluation of the patient's post-operative response to the clinical procedures. Operative dentistry providers should encourage patients to return at intervals appropriate for their age and disease activity levels.

2. Operative Dentistry Procedures

a. Isolation of the Operative Field

(1) Procedure. The principles of operative dentistry cannot be properly practiced without adequate control of the operative field. Removal of moisture, excellent vision, access to the site, and room for instrumentation are requisite to the preparation of biologically and mechanically sound cavities. Such an environment further allows the proper manipulation and insertion of the restorative materials. Inconvenience resulting from a lack of control is unwarranted. A number of methods may be employed, either singly or in combination, to obtain and preserve an adequate operating field.

(2) Rubber Dam Rubber Isolation Criteria

(a) A sufficient number of teeth are exposed (category 2).

(b) The rubber dam is smooth and does not trap and strangle interdental papilla (category 2).

(c) The operation site is unobstructed by frame, napkin, or saliva ejector (category 2).

(d) No seepage of oral fluids is evident and the dam is inverted (category 2).

(e) The rubber dam retainer (clamp) is stable and not causing damage to the tooth or contiguous tissues (category 1).

(f) The rubber dam frame does not impinge on the face (category 1).

(3) Alternate Isolation Mechanisms Criteria

(a) A sufficient number of teeth are exposed (category 2).

(b) The operation site is unobstructed and remains dry (category 1).

(c) No damage is caused to the tooth or contiguous tissues (category 2).

b. Vital Pulp Treatments Standards of Care. See the endodontic standards of care on page 4.

c. Amalgam Restoration

(1) Procedure. An amalgam restoration replaces natural tooth surfaces that have been destroyed due to disease or trauma. The tooth being restored should be properly isolated. In preparing the cavity, the enamel walls and margins should be smooth with a well-defined cavity and the enamel walls parallel to enamel rod direction; the cavity retention should be conspicuous visually and tactually and sufficient, the external cavity outline should be extended for convenience and removal of contiguous decalcification accomplished with straight lines and smooth curves consistent with tooth form and conservation; the internal outline of the cavity should be extended into dentin and caries removal should be complete with no excessive tissue loss. Following preparation, appropriate bases or varnishes should be used and a matrix should be placed when filling all compound restorations.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(b) No damage to adjacent teeth or anatomical structures (category 1).

(c) Surface of the restoration is uniformly smooth (category 1).

(d) The junction of the tooth and restoration is not detectable or scarcely detectable with an explorer (category 2).

(e) Axial contour is continuous with existing tooth form and proximal embrasures and contacts have been restored when indicated (category 2).

(f) Cusp planes, grooves, and marginal ridges are continuous with existing tooth form and functional contact and anatomy have been restored (category 2).

d. Resin Restoration

(1) Procedure. A resin restoration replaces natural tooth surfaces that have been destroyed due to disease or trauma. In addition, resin restorations may be placed to supplant an unacceptable aesthetic situation as in a veneer to mask intrinsic discoloration or alter contour. The tooth being restored should be properly isolated. In preparing the cavity, the enamel walls and margins should be smooth with a well-defined cavity and the enamel walls parallel to enamel rod direction. If a bevel is appropriate to expose rod ends, a minimal bevel should be placed on the previously defined cavity form. The cavity retention may be mechanical in nature and where appropriate, acid etching enamel margins should be performed. The external cavity outline should be extended for convenience and removal of contiguous decalcification accomplished with straight lines and smooth curves consistent with tooth form and conservation. The internal outline of the cavity should be extended into dentin when indicated and caries removal should be complete with no excessive tissue loss. Following preparation, appropriate liners or varnishes should be used and a matrix placed when filling all compound restorations.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(b) No damage to adjacent teeth or anatomical structures (category 1).

(c) Surface of restoration is uniformly smooth (category 1).

(d) The junction of the tooth and restoration is not detectable or scarcely detectable with an explorer (category 2).

(e) Axial contour is continuous with existing tooth form and proximal embrasures and contact have been restored when indicated (category 2).

(f) Cusp planes, grooves, and marginal ridges are continuous with existing tooth form and functional contact and anatomy has been restored (category 2).

(g) Color shade and translucency are adequate (category 2).

e. Gold Inlay and Onlay Restoration

(1) Procedure. A cast gold restoration replaces natural tooth surfaces that have been destroyed due to disease or trauma. The tooth being restored should be properly isolated. In preparing the cavity, the enamel walls and margins should be smooth with a well-defined cavity and the enamel walls parallel to enamel rod direction. If a bevel is appropriate, the bevel should be placed on the previously defined cavity form. The cavity retention should be mechanical in nature with an appropriate line of draw. The external cavity outline should be extended for convenience and removal of contiguous decalcification accomplished with straight lines and smooth curves consistent with tooth form and conservation. The internal outline of the cavity should be extended into dentin and caries removal should be complete with no excessive tissue loss. Following preparation, appropriate bases, liners, or varnishes may be used. An acceptable interim restoration should be placed during the period of restoration fabrication and should meet the guidelines established in the finished restoration standards of care listed below:

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(b) No damage to adjacent teeth or anatomical structures (category 1).

(c) Surface of the restoration is uniformly smooth (category 1).

(d) The junction of the tooth and restoration is not detectable or scarcely detectable with an explorer (category 2).

(e) Axial contour is continuous with existing tooth form and proximal embrasures and contacts have been restored when indicated (category 2).

(f) Cusp planes, grooves, and marginal ridges are continuous with existing tooth form and functional contact and anatomy have been restored (category 2).

f. Direct Gold Restoration

(1) Procedure. A direct gold restoration replaces natural tooth surfaces that have been destroyed due to disease or trauma. The tooth being restored must be properly isolated. In preparing the cavity, the enamel walls and margins should be smooth with a well-defined cavity and the enamel walls parallel to enamel rod direction. If a bevel is appropriate, the bevel should be placed on the previously defined cavity form. The cavity retention should be mechanical in nature. The external cavity outline should be extended for convenience and removal of contiguous decalcification accomplished with straight lines and smooth curves consistent with tooth form and conservation. The internal outline of the cavity should be extended into dentin and caries removal should be complete with no excessive tissue loss. Following preparation, appropriate bases, liners, or varnishes may be used.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(b) No damage to adjacent teeth or anatomical structures (category 1).

(c) Surface of the restoration is uniformly smooth (category 1).

(d) The junction of the tooth and restoration is not detectable or scarcely detectable with an explorer (category 2).

(e) Axial contour is continuous with existing tooth form and proximal embrasures and contacts have been restored when indicated (category 2).

(f) Cusp planes, grooves, and marginal ridges are continuous with existing tooth form and functional contact and anatomy have been restored (category 2).

g. Restoration of Endodontically-treated Teeth. Endodontically-treated teeth as a group have less moisture content and less elasticity than their vital counterparts. To help prevent fracture of these teeth, restorations should be designed to prevent the application of forces which might

fracture the treated tooth. All cusps of posterior endodontically-treated tooth should be covered with adequate amalgam or adequate cast restorations.

h. Pit and Fissure Sealants. See the preventive dentistry standards of care on page 66.

ORAL DIAGNOSIS, ORAL MEDICINE, AND ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL
RADIOLOGY

1. Introduction

a. Oral Diagnosis is that part of dental practice which deals with the skills essential to collect problem-oriented diagnostic data in a systematized and logical fashion. It encompasses the synthesis of the data obtained, the establishment of a differential diagnosis for the patient's chief complaint, and the formulation of a problem-oriented treatment plan.

b. Oral Medicine is that part of dental practice which deals with the skills essential to collect patient-oriented diagnostic data and the chemotherapeutic management of oral disease. It encompasses the assessment of the functional state of the various organ systems, recognition of the reciprocal influences of oral and systemic disease, and the formulation of a patient-oriented treatment plan based on an accurate determination of the patient's physical and emotional capacity to tolerate and respond to dental treatment.

c. Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology is that part of dental practice which deals with the use of ionizing radiation in the diagnosis and treatment of the oral and maxillofacial structures. It encompasses an understanding of radiation physics, radiation biology, radiation protection, radiographic technique, and radiographic interpretation.

2. Clinical Oral and Head and Neck Examination

a. Procedure. The purpose of the clinical examination is to observe and record pertinent information regarding the physical condition of the patient preliminary to development of a rational diagnosis and effective treatment plan. The standards for the clinical examination are the same regardless of the dental service to be performed. The clinical examination includes evaluation of the patient's general health, appearance of the head, neck exposed skin surfaces, lips, gingiva, oral mucosal membranes, tongue, pharynx, and teeth. Dental examination should include evaluation of missing teeth, impacted teeth, caries, fractures, condition of existing restorations and prostheses, periodontal and pulpal status, occlusion, attrition, erosion, and harmful habits. Abnormal oral and perioral masses, growths, ulcers, vesiculobullous lesions, discolorations, sinus tracts, fistulae, radiolucencies, and radiopacities should receive special attention. To perform a complete clinical examination the dentist should have access to such equipment as oral mirror, explorer, periodontal probe, electric, and thermal pulp testers,

transilluminator, blood pressure cuff, and sphygmomanometer, and radiographic equipment. All significant findings should be properly documented in the patient's dental record.

b. Criteria

(1) The morbidity of the presenting problem should not be increased by the clinical examination (category 2).

A) (2) A thorough clinical examination must be conducted and fully documented in the dental record at least annually. The periodontal portion of the examination will be completed using the Periodontal Screening and Recording (PSR) method (category 1).

(3) Each patient's blood pressure must be checked and recorded annually (category 1).

(4) A visual examination of each patient's perioral and oral tissues should be made at every treatment opportunity. This must be recorded in the dental record (category 1).

(5) Any potentially serious systemic problems discovered in the clinical examination must be recorded in the dental record and the appropriate followup evaluation and consults initiated (category 1).

3. Medical and Dental History

a. Procedure. The medical and dental history is a vital part of any patient evaluation. It consists of gathering and recording significant information concerning the chief complaint; history of the present illness; previous treatment; past medical and dental problems; allergies; systemic diseases such as bleeding problems, cardiac disease, history of rheumatic fever, hepatitis or HIV, hospitalizations, x-ray, and drug treatment. A complete history lists familial diseases, significant social habits, and a review of the major body organ systems. The history also records such information as the patient's name, age, sex, ethnic background, occupation, residence, and telephone number. The history should allow a thorough evaluation of the patient's physical and emotional ability to tolerate dental procedures safely. The history should also identify potential systemic problems that require further evaluation before regular dental treatment.

b. Criteria

(1) At least annually, the medical and dental history should be completed and recorded concisely in the dental record (category 1).

(2) The history should be updated and recorded whenever significant new findings are discovered (category 1).

(3) Drug allergies and sensitivities must be recorded in the health history and on the cover of the dental record (category 1).

(4) Any potentially serious systemic conditions discovered in the history must be recorded in the dental record and appropriate consults and followup evaluations initiated (category 1).

(5) Every time a patient is seen for dental treatment, the history should be reviewed. This review should be recorded in the dental record entry for that appointment (category 1).

4. Dental and Maxillofacial Radiographs

a. Procedure. Dental and maxillofacial radiographs are diagnostic tools used for the examination of oral and head and neck hard tissue pathology. Radiographs provide the dentist with vital information on bone and tooth pathology but the radiographic process itself is a source of low-level x-radiation exposure to the patient. Radiographs should be ordered to establish baseline health, for forensic purposes, and in the evaluation of tooth or bony disease. Radiographs should not be used as a standard disease screening process every 6 months or every year particularly when there is no evidence of pathology. Radiographs should be ordered by the dentist based on the individual needs of the patient, presenting problem, and review of the patient's medical health history, not based on some arbitrary schedule. The appropriate radiographs might include such views as: periapical, bitewing, occlusal, panoramic, cephalometric, or skull series. All radiographs should be kept in the patient's dental record for future review and evaluation. All radiographic procedures must be performed with the strictest concern for minimizing radiation exposure to the patient and clinical personnel. When possible, all reusable x-ray positioning devices placed in the patient's mouth should be sterilized. Dental x-ray technicians should wear gloves while handling intraoral films and full time x-ray technicians should wear a film badge or other x-ray detection device while actually taking radiographs. The radiographs produced should be of satisfactory quality to provide the necessary information for diagnostic purposes.

b. Criteria

(1) A full-mouth radiographic series (16 to 21 films) should not be taken more than once every 3 years on a patient

unless there are specific indications for more frequent radiographic evaluation. A panoramic radiograph may be a sufficient replacement in many cases. All attempts should be made to obtain any previous radiographic series from other facilities (category 2).

(2) Radiographs should be ordered based on the individual needs of the patient and not on the basis of an arbitrary time schedule (category 1).

(3) A lead apron should be used for all radiographic procedures and a thyroid collar should be used for all radiographic procedures except the panoramic radiograph (category 1).

(4) The radiograph should be undistorted and show all desired crowns, roots, open contact areas, alveolar, and other bone clearly under standard illumination (category 2).

5. Oral Diagnosis

a. Procedure. Diagnosis consists of the determination of the cause of the patient's dental or oral problem and its classification into a category of disease or dysfunction. The diagnosis is based on the findings of the history and clinical examination. Diagnostic aids may include: radiographs; electrical or thermal pulp testers; percussion; palpation; transillumination; analysis of saliva, blood, or urine; biopsy and study casts, as necessary. Medical laboratory screening tests are used when suggested by the dental and medical history or physical examination. The diagnostic findings must be appropriately documented in the patient's record and the patient should be consulted for a physician's evaluation when the patient's physical or mental status is fragile.

b. Criteria

(1) Complete written diagnostic notations should be made in the dental record including symbolic tooth charting (category 1).

(2) Consultations and referrals should be initiated when necessary to complete the diagnosis. All consults and their results are included in the patient's record (category 1).

(3) Proper adjunctive diagnostic tests should be used including fully diagnostic radiographs. The results of the tests and the radiographs used are found in the dental record (category 1).

6. Treatment Plan

a. Procedure. A treatment plan is a statement of the services needed by the patient and to be performed by the clinician. Based on the history, clinical examination, and diagnosis, the dentist arrives at a logical plan to eliminate or alleviate the patient's dental symptoms and to prevent future degenerative changes. The treatment plan should follow a logical sequence: first relieving pain; then eliminating or controlling infection or trauma; providing prophylaxis and establishing a routine hygiene program; removing hopeless teeth; providing operative, endodontic, periodontal, and prosthetic treatment; and finally establishing a recall schedule. The decision if and how to restore one or more teeth is based on the overall treatment plan, long-term prognosis of the teeth, and requirement for a functional dentition. The treatment plan should schedule an optimal amount of treatment at any single appointment based on the patient's physical and emotional status. Outpatient management is preferred unless severity of systemic disease, complexity of dental treatment, or health of the patient warrants hospitalization. The treatment plan should include consultation to the patient's physician when the health of the patient is in question and referral to a dental specialist when advanced dental treatment is indicated. Finally, the patient must be fully informed of the proposed treatment. It is the patient's final decision whether to accept or refuse all or part of the treatment plan. The dentist should inform the patient of the diagnosis and proposed treatment plan, prognosis, complications, any alternative treatment plans, and possible results if no treatment is undertaken.

b. Criteria

(1) A logical treatment plan based on recorded history, examination, tests, and consultations is documented in the dental record before treatment is begun (category 1).

(2) The patient has been informed of the diagnosis and proposed treatment plan and understands and agrees to the treatment plan. This is indicated on the dental record by writing PTINF (patient informed) at the end of the treatment plan for implied consent or having the patient sign a SF 522, Request for Administration of Anesthesia and for Performance of Operations and Other Procedures, or Consent for Diagnosis and Photographs, or Consent for Diagnosis and Treatment, for expressed consent. These forms should be placed in the dental record (category 1).

(3) If the patient refuses part or all of the treatment plan this should also be documented in the dental record (category 1).

ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGERY

1. Introduction

a. Definition of Specialty Area Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Oral and maxillofacial surgery deals with the diagnosis and the surgical and adjunctive treatment of diseases, injuries, and defects of the oral and maxillofacial regions.

b. Scope of Care. Oral and maxillofacial surgical procedures are performed in both the inpatient hospital setting and outpatient ambulatory treatment facilities. The scope of care includes, but is not limited to, the following categories:

(1) Odontogenic Procedures. Including tooth removal, impacted tooth removal, tooth implantation, replantation, transplantation, and surgical exposure.

(2) Repair Procedures. Including repair of single and complex traumatic oral and facial wounds of skin, mucosa, and soft tissue; repair of congenital clefts of lip and palate; oral-antral and oral-nasal fistula or communication repair; skin or mucosal grafts; bone grafts; and osseous implants.

(3) Preprosthetic Surgery. Surgical contouring and alteration of soft or hard tissues to aid prosthodontic rehabilitation, including alveoloplasty, simple and complex stomatoplasty, and prosthetic implantology.

(4) Surgical Excision of Pathologic Lesions. Including salivary gland surgery, soft tissue lesions, benign tumors, odontogenic and nonodontogenic cysts or tumors, destruction of lesions by physical methods, removal of exostoses, partial or radical resection of maxilla or mandible and sequestrectomy.

(5) Surgical Incision. Including incision and drainage, biopsy, foreign body removal, maxillary sinusotomy, cricothyrotomy, tracheostomy, and therapeutic and surgical management of odontogenic infection.

(6) Treatment of Fractures. Including closed and open reduction of maxillary and mandibular fractures, alveolar process fractures, and fractures of other facial bones.

(7) Orthognathic Surgery. Correction of craniofacial disharmonies by surgical repositioning of maxilla, mandible, and other facial bones and segments.

(8) Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) Dysfunction. Surgical and nonsurgical management of TMJ dysfunction.

(9) Anesthesia. Including local anesthesia, IV sedation, inhalation anesthesia, general anesthesia, and ambulatory anesthesia.

(10) Diagnostic Procedures. Including oral examination, physical examination, radiographic studies, and tests and laboratory examination.

c. General Standards Applicable to All Criteria Sets. Following are general criteria or "givens" which are applicable to all surgical cases.

(1) Applicable History. See standards of care for oral diagnosis on page 29.

Exception - In case of imminent life-threatening emergency, emergency treatment of the patient may preclude obtaining the applicable history, performing a complete examination, or obtaining informed consent.

(2) Examination. The purpose of the clinical examination is to observe and record pertinent information regarding the physical condition of the patient preliminary to development of a rational diagnosis and effective treatment plan. The standards for the clinical examination are the same regardless of the dental service to be performed. The clinical examination includes evaluation of the patient's general health, appearance of the head, neck, exposed skin surfaces, lips, gingiva, oral mucosal membranes, tongue, pharynx, and teeth. Dental examination should include evaluation of missing teeth, impacted teeth, caries, fractures, condition of existing restorations and prostheses, periodontal and pulpal status, occlusion, attrition, erosion, and harmful habits. Abnormal oral and perioral masses, growths, ulcers, vesiculobullous lesions, discolorations, sinus tracts, fistulae, radiolucencies, and radiopacities should receive special attention. To perform a complete clinical examination the dentist should have access to such equipment as oral mirror, explorer, periodontal probe, electric and thermal pulp testers, transilluminator, blood pressure cuff and sphygmomanometer, and radiographic equipment. All significant findings should be properly documented in the patient's dental record. This is recorded in the "Objective Data" section of the "S.O.A.P." note in box 17 of the SF-603/SF-603A page of the dental record. Hospital inpatients will have a complete history and physical examination with results documented in the inpatient hospital chart (category 2).

(3) Diagnosis. The "assessment" section of the S.O.A.P. note must document a diagnosis, clinical impression, and pre-operative diagnosis or needs assessment based on the subjective data and objective data (category 2).

(4) Treatment Plan. A comprehensive treatment plan must be completed at the time of examination for all patients who require treatment and must be recorded in the "plan" section of the "S.O.A.P." note in box 17 of the SF-603/SF-603A (category 2).

(5) Infection Control. Appropriate level of asepsis, including autoclaving of all surgical instruments, use of single-use injection needles, cleanliness of treatment areas, aseptic surgical techniques, and surgical scrub of the hands which includes the use of sterile gloves and drapes must be attained (category 2).

(6) Pathology Evaluation. All tissue removed should be identified macroscopically or microscopically. Immediate definitive care is mandated by suspected malignancy or other life-threatening conditions (category 2).

(7) Antibiotic Prophylaxis. Appropriate antibiotic prophylaxis must be prescribed when indicated for prevention of bacterial endocarditis (category 1).

d. Level of Care Required. Oral and maxillofacial surgical procedures should be accomplished in the inpatient hospital setting rather than in an ambulatory outpatient facility as indicated when:

(1) Historical evidence of concomitant systemic disease requiring medical management is evident.

(2) Control of pain and apprehension in the unduly fearful patient (i.e., patient under psychiatric care, previous attempt made to treat in ambulatory setting, nonresponsive to ambulatory outpatient management) is needed.

(3) Cervico-facial infection is present (may require extraoral drainage and medical consultation for infection).

(4) A patient requires inpatient anesthesia management.

(5) Complexity of surgical procedure or the patient requires special diagnostic and therapeutic equipment only available in the hospital.

(6) Post-operative supportive nursing care will be required.

2. Oral and Maxillofacial Surgical Procedures

a. Tooth Extraction - Forceps

(1) Procedure. The nonsurgical removal of an erupted tooth using forceps. Indications for the procedure are derived from an evaluation which includes one or more of the following:

(a) History or evidence of oral functional impairment, pain, swelling, etc.

(b) Radiologic evidence of decay, coronal, periapical or periodontal pathosis, and bone destruction.

(c) Clinical evidence of decay, swelling, tooth fracture, abnormal pulp tests, missing crown, excessive morbidity.

(d) Insufficient tooth structure for operative restoration or root canal treatment.

(e) Refusal or failure of root canal treatment.

(f) Part of an orthodontic treatment.

(g) Nonfunctional teeth.

(2) Post-operative Criteria

(a) No sepsis (e.g., wound infection, abscess, bacteremia, septic phlebitis) (category 2).

(b) No hemorrhage (category 2).

(c) No alveolar osteitis (category 2).

(d) No anesthesia, paresthesia, dysesthesia, of mandibular, mental, or other nerve distribution (category 2).

(e) No extraction of the wrong tooth (category 1).

(f) No fracture of the jaw (category 2).

(g) No oral-antral perforation or fistula (category 2).

(h) No damage to adjacent teeth (category 2).

(i) No airway problem (category 2).

(j) Should not require intravenous fluid administration to maintain appropriate hydration level (category 2).

(k) No portion of tooth or root unremoved without informing patient and noted in record (category 1).

b. Surgical Removal of Teeth

(1) Procedure. Surgical removal of teeth is a method for extracting complicated erupted teeth and impacted teeth. The procedure requires reflection of mucoperiosteal flaps for access or bone removal or sectioning of teeth with surgical drills or chisel technique. Indications for the surgical procedure are derived from an evaluation which includes one or more of the following:

(a) History or evidence of oral functional impairment, pain, swelling, etc.

(b) Radiologic evidence of decay, coronal, periapical or periodontal pathosis, bone destruction, impaction.

(c) Clinical evidence of decay, swelling, tooth fracture, abnormal pulp tests, malocclusion.

(d) Unerupted tooth inaccessible to operative repair or root canal treatment.

(e) Refusal or failure of root canal treatment.

(f) Part of an orthodontic treatment plan.

(g) Clinically indicated removal of nonfunctional teeth.

(2) Post-operative Criteria

(a) No sepsis (e.g., wound infection, abscess, bacteremia, or septic phlebitis) (category 2).

(b) No hemorrhage (category 2).

(c) No alveolar osteitis (category 2).

(d) No anesthesia, paresthesia, dysesthesia, of mandibular, mental, or other nerve distribution (category 2).

(e) No extraction of the wrong tooth (category 1).

(f) No fracture of the jaw (category 2).

(g) No oral-antral perforation/fistula (category 2).

(h) No damage to adjacent teeth (category 2).

(i) No airway problem (category 2).

(j) Should not require intravenous fluid

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administration to maintain appropriate hydration level
(category 2).

(k) No portion of tooth or root unremoved without
informing patient and noted in record (category 1).

c. Alveoloplasty

(1) Procedure. Alveoloplasty is the surgical
recontouring of the bony alveolar ridge using surgical drills,
rongeurs, chisels, and bone files. Indications for the procedure
include:

(a) Bony exostosis of an alveolar ridge.

(b) Clinical evidence or oral functional impairment
(inability to tolerate prosthesis, masticatory problems).

(c) Post tooth extraction - alveolar bone projections
or defects requiring alveolar ridge smoothing and modification.

(d) Radiologic and clinical evidence of defective
alveolar ridge.

(2) Post-operative Criteria

(a) No sepsis (e.g., wound infection, abscess,
bacteremia, or septic phlebitis) (category 2).

(b) No hemorrhage (category 2).

(c) No anesthesia, paresthesia, dysesthesia, of
mandibular, mental, or other nerve distribution (category 2).

(d) No fracture of the jaw (category 2).

(e) No oral-antral perforation/fistula (category 2).

(f) No airway problem (category 2).

(g) Should not require intravenous fluid admini-
stration to maintain appropriate hydration level (category 2).

d. Oral Biopsy-Procedure. Incisional or excisional biopsy
of lesions of the oral tissues including mucosa, gingiva, lips,
cheeks, tongue, maxilla and mandible, hard and soft palate, and
floor of mouth.

(1) Indications for Surgical Procedure

(a) Lesions of oral tissue with question of

malignancy (e.g., white lesions of mucosa, leukoplakia, red lesions, speckled lesions, deeply pigmented or melanotic lesions).

(b) Lesions of oral tissue to establish histologic diagnosis.

(c) Lesions of oral tissue subject to malignant change through chronic irritation.

(2) Post-operative Criteria

(a) No sepsis (e.g., wound infection, abscess, bacteremia, or septic phlebitis) (category 2).

(b) No hemorrhage (category 2).

(c) No neurosensory deficit (category 2).

(d) See standards of care for oral pathology for additional criteria on page 43.

e. Open or Closed Reduction of Facial Fracture

(1) Procedure. Closed reduction of facial fractures is used in management of maxillary and mandibular fractures using intermaxillary fixation, splints, and various arch-bar or dental wiring techniques. Open reduction of facial fractures is a procedure which may use the above, plus surgical exposure of the fracture with placement of internal fixation. Indications for the operation are derived from the following suggested evaluation:

(a) Physical evidence of facial bone fracture with instability or displacement.

(b) Radiologic evidence of facial bone fracture with displacement.

(2) Post-operative Criteria

(a) No sepsis (e.g., wound infection, abscess, bacteremia, or septic phlebitis) (category 2).

(b) No hemorrhage (category 2).

(c) No airway obstruction (category 2).

(d) No cranial nerve deficit (category 2).

(e) No instability, malunion, or nonunion (category 2).

(f) No malocclusion (category 2).

(g) No visual disturbance (category 2).

(h) No cosmetic deformity (category 2).

(i) No cerebrospinal fluid leak (category 2).

f. Excision of Salivary Glands, Partial or Total

(1) Procedure. Surgical excision of minor or major salivary glands via the oral cavity or extraoral approach. The indications for the procedure include:

(a) Mucous retention phenomenon (mucocele or ranula).

(b) Tumor of salivary gland.

(c) Persistent or recurrent sialadenitis, with or without calculus.

(2) Post-operative Criteria

(a) No sepsis (e.g., wound infection, abscess, bacteremia, or septic phlebitis) (category 2).

(b) No hemorrhage (category 2).

(c) No cranial nerve deficit (category 2).

(d) No salivary cutaneous fistula (category 2).

g. Other Procedures. The standards of care for surgical procedures usually performed within a hospital (i.e., orthognathic surgery, TMJ surgery, preprosthetic surgery, and anesthesia procedures) should conform to the standards of care accepted and when published by the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons.

ORAL PATHOLOGY

1. Introduction

a. Definition. Oral pathology is the specialty of dentistry and pathology which deals with the nature, identification, and management of diseases affecting the oral and maxillofacial regions. It is a science that investigates the causes, processes, and effects of these diseases. The practice of oral pathology includes research, diagnosis of diseases using clinical, radiographic, microscopic, biochemical, or other examinations, and management of patients.

b. Scope of Care. The practice of pathology is essential to patient care. The oral pathologist and the oral histopathology laboratory staff provide services including, but not limited to, the examination of patient related oral and maxillofacial hard and soft tissue specimens, clinical interpretation and consultation, scientific investigation, and education to be effective in prevention, recognition, diagnosis, management, and prognosis of diseases affecting the oral and maxillofacial regions.

2. Biopsy Specimen

a. Procedures. The dental clinician's decision to obtain a tissue specimen for examination, usually microscopic examination, by an oral pathology service is indicated when signs and symptoms of an observed tissue change do not provide sufficient information to establish a diagnosis. In obtaining a biopsy specimen, the clinician must take care to evaluate the site for potential complications. Care must also be taken to ensure representative sampling of the lesion if it is not totally excised. Good surgical technique, sharp instruments, proper placement of anesthetic solution, and careful delivery of the tissue sample are essential to avoid mutilation of the specimen. Once obtained, the specimen must be placed immediately into an appropriate fixative, usually 10 percent neutral buffered formalin. The specimen container must be properly identified and delivered to the oral pathology service together with a tissue examination form that contains all necessary information. Radiographs should be included whenever the specimen is taken from an intrabony lesion.

b. Criteria

(1) Specimen container is properly identified
(category 1).

(2) Specimen container has sufficient quantity of appropriate fixative (category 1).

(3) Tissue examination form is included and contains all necessary information (category 1).

(4) Radiographs accompany intrabony lesion (category 2).

(5) Specimen is free of obvious mutilation (category 2).

(6) Surgical margins are identified (category 3).

3. Cytologic Smear

a. Procedure. In special situations, exfoliative cytologic smear is a valuable and useful diagnostic procedure. The tissue site from which the cells are obtained must be cleansed and then effectively scraped with an appropriate instrument. The harvested cells are evenly spread on a microscopic glass slide, preferably one that has a frosted end for writing, and immediately sprayed with or immersed in a fixative composed of 95 percent ethyl alcohol. Prepare two or more slides so that two or more staining methods can be performed if required. The microscopic glass slides must be properly identified, carefully packaged, and delivered to an oral pathology service together with a cytologic smear examination form (SF 515 is suitable) that includes all necessary information.

b. Criteria

(1) Microscopic slides are properly identified (category 1).

(2) Harvested cells are evenly distributed (category 2).

(3) Appropriate fixative has been applied (category 1).

(4) Examination form is submitted with all pertinent data (category 1).

4. Microscopic Slide with Sections From Patient's Specimen

a. Procedure. Upon delivery of a tissue specimen or cytologic smear to the oral pathology service, the specimen must be carefully handled to ensure accurate identification during receipt, accessioning, and all other laboratory processes. The oral pathologist will perform macroscopic examination of the specimen as well as determine the processes and staining procedures required. Prepared microslides must be diagnostic in quality.

b. Criteria

(1) Accurate identification of specimens and their accompanying examination forms is maintained throughout all laboratory processes (category 1).

(2) Tissue sections are well stained, of proper thickness, coverslipped without trapped air bubbles, and free of folds (category 2).

(3) Microslides are diagnostic in quality (category 1).

(4) Microslides are accurately labeled (category 1).

5. Tissue Examination Report

a. Procedure. Prepared tissue sections from patient's specimen will be examined microscopically by the oral pathologist who renders a written and signed report of findings. A copy of the report is maintained in the laboratory's file. Diagnoses of a serious nature are reported to the contributing clinician by the most expeditious manner, usually by telephone, with a written and signed report to follow. When appropriate, microslides are submitted for review by peers or by consultants. When differences of interpretation occur, a method of resolving differences has been established and is effectively used.

b. Criteria

(1) Macroscopic or microscopic findings are clearly and concisely rendered in a written and signed report (category 1).

(2) A copy of each report is maintained in the laboratory's file (category 2).

(3) Peer review or consultant opinions are obtained (category 3).

(4) A method of resolving differences of opinion has been established and is effectively used (category 1).

(5) Diagnoses of a serious nature are reported to the contributor in the most expeditious manner (category 1).

ORTHODONTICS

1. Introduction

a. Definition of Orthodontics. The area of dentistry concerned with the supervision, guidance, and correction of the growing and mature dental facial structures. Conditions that require movement of teeth or correction of malrelationships and malformations of related structures by the adjustment of relationships between and among teeth and facial bones by the application of forces and the stimulation and reduction of the functional forces within the craniofacial complex are included.

b. Scope of Care. Orthodontics includes space maintenance, tooth guidance, minor tooth movement, interceptive procedures, and full orthodontic treatment to influence growth or tooth position and in conjunction with orthognathic surgical procedures. Removable or fixed appliances may be used to accomplish these goals. Candidates for orthodontic treatment should be in good general health and excellent oral health maintenance.

c. General Considerations

(1) Many of the features of evaluation in orthodontics are common to all dental practice and will not be discussed in this section; only those aspects of specific importance to orthodontics will be included.

(2) The timing of treatment is of particular importance in orthodontic correction. Any particular problem may be better treated in the deciduous dentition, mixed dentition, or the permanent dentition. Appropriate treatment may require one or more phases of active treatment. The demands of treatment timing may conflict with patient or orthodontic care availability in the military environment; when such a conflict arises, the decision must be to stay within military guidance.

(3) The principles of preventive dentistry should be employed during the diagnosis and treatment of orthodontic problems, including counseling of the patient on dietary concerns, plaque control, and the need for the continuance of routine dental examination and treatment. Topical fluoride should be applied before placement of orthodontic appliances and at appropriate intervals thereafter for the patient at risk for caries.

(4) Orthodontic treatment should be directed toward the attainment of an optimal result for each patient in regard to dentition, supporting bone, occlusion, overbite, and overjet to achieve aesthetic improvement and stability of the correction.

Active treatment should be followed with appropriate retention when the patient is available.

(5) A satisfactory result in orthodontics is dependent upon the combination of professional skill, patient cooperation, the age of the patient, severity of the presenting malocclusion, treatment objectives, and individual growth and development patterns occurring during treatment and retention.

(6) Because the transfer of patients already in active orthodontic appliances applied through civilian sources constitutes the majority of the cases seen in the military setting, many of the diagnostic and treatment decisions have already been made on the patient's behalf. The Navy orthodontist may be called on to treat cases with a treatment plan that he or she would not have elected at the initiation of the case. The orthodontist should either accept the transfer case with the goal of achieving the best possible outcome under the prechosen treatment plan, or inform the patient and responsible adult that the case cannot be accepted under the current treatment plan and then outline proposed treatment changes or alternatives open to the patient and parent.

(7) Following Navy directives, orthodontic treatment should not be initiated if completion of the active phase of treatment cannot reasonably be expected to be completed before the separation or reassignment of the patient or sponsor.

(8) Cases not completed due to unexpected early rotation or treatment delays should be accompanied by transfer records following American Association of Orthodontists protocol.

2. Orthodontic Procedures

a. Space Maintenance Devices

(1) Procedure. Space maintenance devices are used to conserve space for the eruption of the permanent tooth or teeth when deciduous teeth are lost prematurely. The devices may be either removable or fixed.

(2) Criteria

(a) Appropriate diagnostic criteria used
(category 1).

(b) Maintenance of available space when appliance is worn appropriately (category 1).

(c) Appliance monitored at appropriate intervals
(category 1).

(3) Appliance is removed once its purpose has been served (category 1).

(4) Transfer notes are provided to the responsible adult if transfer notice is given before completion of treatment (category 1).

b. Habit Breaking Device

(1) Procedure. Habit breaking devices are used to modify digital, tongue, or breathing habits so that adverse forces to the developing dentition and skeletal components of the craniofacial complex are minimized or reversed. Habit breakers may be either removable or fixed.

(2) Criteria

(a) Appropriate diagnostic criteria are used (category 1).

(b) A psychologic profile assessment of the patient is considered (category 1).

(c) No permanent damage to the teeth or soft tissues results from treatment (category 1).

(d) Appliance and results of treatment are monitored at appropriate intervals (category 1).

(e) Appliance is removed once its purpose has been served (category 1).

(f) Transfer notes are provided to the responsible adult if transfer notice is given before the completion of treatment (category 1).

c. Interceptive Device

(1) Procedure. Interceptive appliances are used to prevent or correct malalignment or malocclusion problems of both individual teeth and tooth segments. The interceptive device may be fixed or removable.

(2) Criteria

(a) Appropriate diagnostic criteria have been used (category 1).

(b) No permanent damage to the teeth or soft tissue resulted from treatment (category 1).

(c) Appliance is monitored and adjusted at appropriate intervals (category 1).

(d) Active appliance therapy is discontinued once the treatment goals have been met (category 1).

(e) Retention demands are considered (category 1).

(f) Transfer notes are provided to the responsible adult if transfer notice is given before completion of active treatment (category 1).

d. Comprehensive Orthodontics

(1) Procedure. The study of growth of the craniofacial complex, development of the occlusion, and dentofacial abnormalities is basic to the comprehensive orthodontic spectrum. Orthodontic therapy is directed toward the correction or minimization of problems caused within the occlusion, growth of the craniofacial complex, and function of the neuromusculature bordering the dental complex. A variety of appliances, both removable and fixed, can be used.

(2) Criteria

(a) Adequate medical, familiar, and dental histories are obtained (category 1).

(b) Adequate diagnostic data is obtained for the complexity of the presenting problem (category 1).

(c) Growth assessment or forecast as appropriate (category 1).

(d) Patient availability exceeds the predicted treatment time (category 1).

(e) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms are experienced during therapy (category 2).

(f) No damage to the teeth results from treatment (category 2).

(g) The teeth are placed in a physiologically functional position at the end of treatment (category 1).

(h) The best aesthetics for the individual patient is achieved at the end of treatment (category 1).

(i) The active appliance is removed at the end of active treatment (category 1).

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(j) Retention needs are assessed and provided for (category 1).

(k) Transfer notes and materials are provided following American Association of Orthodontists protocol when transfer notice is given by the patient or parent before the completion of active appliance treatment (category 1).

PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

1. Introduction

a. Definition. Pediatric dentistry is that branch of dentistry that is concerned with the oral and dental health of the child patient. Its study and practice encompasses the basic clinical sciences, the etiology, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of diseases and injuries to the tooth and its pulp, and an understanding of the child's facial and intraoral growth and development.

b. Scope of Care. The scope of pediatric dentistry includes but is not limited to preventive treatments, retroactive procedures, extractions and space maintenance, as well as the differential diagnosis and treatment of the following:

- (1) Oral and dental diseases.
- (2) Disturbances in eruption.
- (3) Oral and dental injuries.
- (4) Existing or developing malocclusions.
- (5) Periodontal diseases and abnormalities.

Any practitioner who performs pediatric dental procedures should be proficient in behavior management and be well acquainted with the various pharmacological and nonpharmacological adjuncts to patient management. Note that some pedodontic cases are beyond the training, experience, and expertise of individual general practitioners. These children should be referred to practitioners who can more appropriately provide their care.

c. Pedodontic Examination and Diagnosis. Many features of evaluation in pedodontics are common to all dental practice. These elements are abbreviated yet included for completeness. An adequate medical and dental history with contemporaneous visual and radiographic examination provides basic information. Some indicated tests such as thermal, electrical, percussion, palpation, and mobility should be accomplished. Additional periodontal examination, transillumination, and bacteriologic testing may be indicated. Bitewing radiographs, occlusal plane films, and Panorex x-rays may be necessary. In addition to the oral and perioral examination, every child patient should be routinely screened for evidence of child abuse and neglect; appropriate referrals should be made when indicated. Recall of some patients may be necessary at periodic intervals to compare some of the examination data from one time interval to another to

make an accurate diagnosis. At times, radiographs from previous practitioners are advisable for a better idea of the evolution of a situation as it presents to the clinician at a given point in time.

d. Pedodontic Treatment Planning and Records

(1) Appropriate treatment is predicated on accurate analysis of all diagnostic data. Treatment planning should include the determination of the strategic importance of the tooth or teeth considered for treatment, the prognosis, and other factors, including the length of time a primary tooth is expected to be retained and its role in the development of the child's occlusion.

(2) Treatment records should include the chief complaints, clinical impression, results of diagnostic tests and clinical examination, diagnoses (including a description of the occlusion), comprehensive treatment plan and pre-operative and post-operative radiographs when indicated.

(3) Pediatric dental care includes the evaluation of the patient's post-operative response to the clinical procedures. Pedodontic providers should encourage patients to return at intervals appropriate for their disease activity levels and for the procedures undertaken to allow clinical evaluation.

2. Specific Pediatric Dental Procedures

a. Isolation of Operative Field. See operative dentistry standards of care on page 22.

b. Amalgam Restorations. See operative dentistry standards of care on page 23.

c. Resin Restorations. See operative dentistry standards of care on page 24.

d. Acid Etch Resin Crown

(1) Procedure. An acid etch resin crown is placed on an anterior primary tooth to replace natural tooth surfaces that have been destroyed due to disease or trauma or to strengthen an anterior tooth that has been treated with pulpectomy. The tooth being restored should be properly isolated. The preparation should include adequate lingual, interproximal, and incisal reduction as well as complete removal of caries with no excessive tissue loss. The proper crown form should be selected and then carefully trimmed to provide a good fit at the cervical area of the prep. Following preparation, a base should be used if

appropriate, the remaining enamel should be etched, and bonding agents applied if desired. The trimmed crown form should be filled with a composite resin material, placed over the prep, then cured and finished.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms
(category 2).

(b) No damage to adjacent teeth or anatomical structures (category 1).

(c) Functional contacts and anatomy have been restored (category 1).

(d) The resin-tooth interface is very smooth, only slightly detectable with an explorer (category 2).

e. Stainless Steel Crown

(1) Procedure. A stainless steel crown is placed on a primary tooth to replace natural tooth surfaces that have been destroyed due to disease or trauma or to strengthen a tooth that has had a pulpotomy or pulpectomy. The tooth being restored should be properly isolated. The preparation should include adequate interproximal and occlusal reduction, rounded line and point angles as well as complete removal of caries with no excessive tissue loss. The proper stainless steel crown should be selected then carefully trimmed, contoured, and polished. The finished crown should be cemented with an appropriate luting agent.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms
(category 2).

(b) No damage to adjacent teeth or anatomical structures (category 1).

(c) Functional contacts and anatomy have been restored (category 1).

(d) Restoration should fit snugly around cervical area of tooth, crown-tooth interface should be subgingival and only slightly detectable with an explorer (category 1).

(e) No cement or other debris remains in the gingival cuff area (category 1).

f. Space Maintaining Appliances

(1) Procedure. Space maintaining appliances are placed after the premature loss of a primary tooth to prevent the drifting and space loss that can occur following such a loss. There are many different types of space maintaining devices; unilateral or bilateral, fixed or removable, anterior or posterior. The following are important issues to consider when deciding which type of appliance to employ: time elapsed since loss, dental age of the patient, sequence and timing of eruption, which primary tooth or teeth have been lost, the patient's cooperative ability. Fixed space maintainers should be evaluated once yearly. The abutment tooth or teeth should then be polished and inspected and a topical fluoride treatment applied. The space maintainer can then be recemented.

(2) Criteria

(a) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 1).

(b) Space maintaining device does not impinge on soft tissue or interfere with eruption of occlusion (category 1).

(c) Sufficient space is maintained to allow eruption of succedaneous tooth when the appliance has been worn correctly (category 1).

(d) Space maintaining appliance is monitored at appropriate intervals and removed once its purpose has been served (category 1).

g. Pit and Fissure Sealants. See standards of care for preventive dentistry on page 66.

h. Periodontal Surgical Therapy. See standards of care for periodontics on page 61.

i. Minor Tooth Movement. See standards of care for orthodontics on page 47.

j. Habit Breaking Device. See standards of care for orthodontics on page 49.

k. Pulp Therapy. See standards of care for endodontics on page 4.

PERIODONTICS

1. Introduction

a. Definition. Periodontics is that branch of dentistry dealing with the diagnosis and treatment of the supporting and surrounding tissues of the teeth and their substitutes and the implantation or transplantation of teeth or their substitutes. The goals of modern periodontal therapy are to preserve and maintain periodontal health, aesthetics, and function of the natural dentition and implanted tooth replacements.

b. Scope of Care

(1) The goals of periodontal therapy may be occasionally compromised, e.g., when a patient is unable or unwilling to act as an effective cotherapist, when a practitioner elects to temporarily retain a hopeless tooth that is serving as an abutment for a fixed or removable prosthesis or maintaining vertical dimension during active periodontal therapy. A patient who is unable or unwilling to undergo comprehensive periodontal therapy or a medically compromised patient serve as two examples of individuals who may best be treated with a limited therapeutic program equivalent to periodontal maintenance treatment.

(2) The currently accepted clinical signs of a healthy periodontium include the absence of inflammation, bleeding, and exudate. The genesis of pathologic changes in the periodontium is multifactorial and requires an understanding of the classification and etiology of periodontal disease. Knowledge and training in the various modalities employed in periodontal therapy are also essential.

(3) The common forms of periodontal disease are gingivitis and periodontitis. Periodontitis may be generalized or may be site specific, i.e., affecting only isolated areas. In addition, these major diseases are chronic in nature and require complex therapy, maintenance, and observation by both the professional and the patient. Each patient's therapy is determined by evaluating the local and environmental factors as they interact with host-derived factors. The identification of those factors and the degree to which they participate in each patient's case is the basis for determining what periodontal therapeutic techniques will be used. In periodontics, a wide range of therapy exists. No one treatment approach can provide the only means to treating any one, or all, of the periodontal disease types. Further, one treatment may be appropriate for one section of the mouth, while another therapeutic approach is more suitable elsewhere.

(4) The maintenance, in health, of a functional periodontal attachment and the maintenance of those tissues contiguous to surgically implanted tooth replacements is essential for long-term success.

2. Diagnosis

a. Procedure. Each patient should periodically receive a thorough, systematic periodontal examination to establish a diagnosis of periodontal health; for example, gingivitis, slight periodontitis, moderate periodontitis, or advanced periodontitis.

b. Criteria

(1) Presence or absence of gross periodontal pathosis has been noted after an evaluation of the topography of the gingiva and related structures (category 1).

(2) Periodontal probing has been performed to assess the attachment level and to provide information on the health of the subgingival area, e.g., presence of bleeding, purulent exudate, periodontal pockets, furcation involvement, and mucogingival defects (category 1).

(3) Presence and distribution of bacterial plaque and calculus has been noted. The presence of plaque should be recorded, as necessary, to document oral hygiene effectiveness (category 1).

(4) Other factors related to disease progression and treatment, i.e., tooth proximal contact relationships, mobility, malocclusion, condition of existing restorations, etc., have been noted as applicable (category 1).

(5) A satisfactory number of diagnostic quality periapical and bitewing radiographs have been interpreted (category 1).

3. Treatment Plan

a. Procedure. The diagnosis is used to develop a logical plan of treatment to eliminate or alleviate the signs and symptoms of periodontal disease, and thereby prevent or slow further destructive changes. The treatment plan should be used to establish the methods and sequence of delivering appropriate periodontal treatment, and an estimate of both short- and long-term prognosis.

b. Criteria

(1) The treatment plan should include:

(a) The periodontal procedures to be performed (category 1).

(b) Treatment that may be performed by others, e.g., endodontic therapy (category 2).

(c) Provisions for reevaluation during and after active periodontal therapy (category 1).

(d) A consideration of adjunctive restorative treatment (category 2).

(e) Appropriate medical or dental consultation, as needed (category 2).

(f) A recall program of supportive periodontal maintenance treatment for moderate and advanced periodontitis and for surgically implanted tooth replacements (category 1).

(2) The periodontal chart should be filled out before finalization of the periodontal treatment plan for all type III and type IV periodontal case types (category 1).

(3) The patient should be given the following information:

(a) The diagnosis, proposed therapy, any reasonable alternative treatment, and the prognosis with and without proposed therapy (category 1).

(b) Recommendations for treatment to be performed by other dentists or physicians (category 2).

(c) The reasonably foreseeable inherent risks associated with treatment, including failures and the ultimate loss of teeth in a small percentage of cases despite treatment (category 1).

(d) After active therapy, the need for supportive periodontal maintenance treatment due to the episodic and recurrent nature of periodontal disease (category 1).

(4) Appropriate documentation of consent for treatment (category 1).

4. Nonsurgical Periodontal Therapy

a. Procedure. Nonsurgical periodontal therapy usually refers to training for the patient in daily personal dental care and to scaling and root planing. Documentation of the patient's plaque level is necessary to periodically document plaque control

effectiveness. Removal of supragingival and accessible subgingival calculus is accomplished by periodontal scaling. Root surface irregularities and root surfaces altered by periodontal pathosis are treated by the comprehensive service of periodontal root planing. These procedures may be part of the hygienic phase of treatment or the only therapy the patient requires. In some instances, scaling and root planing may be incorporated in the surgical treatment since surgical access may be necessary to remove all root surface deposits.

b. Criteria

(1) Training for the patient in daily personal dental hygiene and provisions for review and reinforcement of personal daily dental hygiene have been provided (category 1).

(2) Bacterial deposits (both hard and soft) have been removed (category 2).

(3) A smooth, optimally cleansable root surface has been achieved (category 2).

5. Adjunctive Therapies

a. Procedure. This may include, but not necessarily be confined to, such procedures as occlusal adjustment, minor tooth movement, and occlusal appliances as dictated by the complexities of the case. The major indications for an occlusal adjustment are learned from a history and examination that provide evidence of a functional masticatory disturbance, evidence of hypermobility that interferes with the patient's comfort, or evidence of increasing mobility. Orthodontic treatment may be desirable to achieve a more acceptable occlusal relationship. Occlusal appliances are most often used when patients present with signs of stomatognathic system breakdown caused by parafunctional habits.

b. Criteria

(1) Following an occlusal adjustment, discomfort has been alleviated, function has been restored, and mobility has decreased (category 2).

(2) Minor tooth movement has reestablished a satisfactory occlusion, aesthetic condition, and function (category 2).

(3) The occlusal appliance has reduced occlusal traumatism or modified the adverse effects of parafunctional habits (category 2).

6. Periodontal Surgical Therapy

a. Procedure. Surgical procedures are performed to provide access for scaling and root planing, to provide for a tooth surface which is biologically acceptable to the soft tissue interface, to provide access for plaque control, to maximally reduce pathological gingival defects, to reduce or eliminate periodontal pockets, to establish a physiologic form, to correct deformities of the alveolar bone, to restore lost periodontal structures, and to implant tooth replacements. To accomplish these objectives a wide variety of surgical modalities have been developed. These include: gingivectomy and gingivoplasty, various flap procedures, ostectomy and osteoplasty, root resection, pedicle grafts, free autogenous gingival grafts, various types of osseous grafts, other regenerative procedures or augmentation procedures, and dental implants.

b. Criteria

(1) Gingiva is restored to appropriate physiologic form and deformities in the alveolar bone have been corrected in most instances. Areas of periodontal compromise may exist, but the patient can maintain the mouth in an acceptable state of health (category 2).

(2) The surgical procedure has eliminated or controlled the problem it was performed to correct and has not aggravated the periodontal condition (category 2).

(3) Dental implants have osseointegrated and have become functional tooth replacements (category 2).

7. Periodontal Maintenance Treatment

a. Procedure. Upon completion of active treatment, followup supportive periodontal maintenance treatment is mandatory and should include:

(1) Update of medical and dental history.

(2) Evaluation of current periodontal health status.

(3) Assessment of the patient's bacterial plaque control effectiveness, and reinstruction where needed.

(4) Elimination or mitigation of new or persistent etiologic factors as needed.

(5) Where applicable, maintenance procedures performed for those tissues contiguous to surgically implanted tooth replacements.

(6) New or refractory areas of periodontal pathosis are considered for treatment, or the regular interval schedule of periodontal maintenance treatment is continued.

b. Criteria

(1) Periodontal maintenance care, as appropriate, has been rendered (category 1).

(2) If periodontal maintenance care cannot be provided, it is mandatory that the patient be informed, before treatment, of the potential sequelae and documentation of same be made in the record (category 1).

8. Evaluation of Therapy

a. Procedure. The results of periodontal therapy are periodically reevaluated to ensure that therapeutic objectives have been achieved. The result of periodontal treatment may be adversely affected by circumstances beyond the control of the dentist. Examples include certain medical diseases, inadequate plaque control by the patient, unknown or undeterminable etiologic factors which current therapy has not controlled, pulpal-periodontal problems, inability or failure of the patient to follow the suggested treatment or supportive program, and uncorrectable anatomic or iatrogenic factors.

b. Criteria. Upon completion of the planned active treatment, records and a clinical assessment should reveal that:

(1) The patient has been counseled on why he or she should perform an effective daily personal treatment program and has been shown how to accomplish the necessary procedures (category 1).

(2) Procedures generally accepted as therapeutic have been performed to arrest or slow the progress of the periodontal disease (category 1).

(3) Periodontal root planing has left the subgingival root surface without clinically detectable calculus deposits or rough areas (category 1).

(4) Physiologic gingival crevices are without bleeding or exudate upon light probing and, ideally, can be maintained in health by daily patient care and the periodic professional service of supportive periodontal treatment procedures. The morphology of periodontal defects and anatomic and cosmetic limitations may preclude achieving such optimal results (category 2).

(5) A recommendation has been made to the restorative dentist for the correction of any tooth form, restoration, or prosthesis considered contributing to the periodontal disease process (category 1).

(6) The patient has been informed that a recall maintenance program is essential to the future or long-term control of their periodontal disease (category 1).

(7) An appropriate recall program for periodontal maintenance has been recommended to the patient and a followup supportive periodontal treatment developed that is specific for his or her circumstances (category 1).

(8) A periodontal chart has been completed for type III and type IV cases to document results of therapy (category 2).

PREVENTIVE DENTISTRY AND ORAL HYGIENE

1. Introduction. The goal of preventive dentistry services is to assist the patient in either establishing control of his or her dental disease or in continuing to maintain good oral health. Preventive dentistry includes all clinical tests, treatment procedures, and patient education activities that are provided to patients for the purpose of controlling oral diseases. Some of these activities are described in references (b) and (c). In general, the patient must receive a careful assessment of his or her oral health needs and be provided with an individualized preventive dentistry treatment plan.

2. Dental Caries and Periodontal Disease Prevention

a. Procedure

(1) Dental caries prevention is accomplished by means of a comprehensive effort by both the dental provider and the patient. Of primary importance in this control effort is daily use of effective fluoride agents by the patient in conjunction with oral hygiene practices, the application of pit and fissure sealants, and limitation of the frequency of use of refined carbohydrates.

(2) Periodontal disease prevention is accomplished by means of a comprehensive effort by both the dental provider and the patient. Of importance in this control effort are chemomechanical plaque control measures, effective oral health counseling, thorough calculus removal, good occlusal assessment, and the placement of high quality restorations where teeth are damaged or missing.

b. Criteria

(1) A written entry is made in the treatment record of the specific oral health recommendations made to the patient during oral health counseling (category 2).

(2) An individualized treatment plan is developed that reflects the unique oral health needs of the patient (category 1).

(3) All technical aspects of the Navy preventive dentistry program will be provided as appropriate for all adult and child patients (category 2).

(4) The removal of calculus deposits, with only small isolated deposits remaining (category 1).

(5) No irreversible gingival or mucosal tissue damage will be evident (category 1).

3. Pit and Fissure Sealants

a. Procedure. A pit and fissure sealant is placed to prevent occlusal caries in susceptible teeth. Presence of interproximal caries should be ruled out before sealant placement. Sealants can change tooth morphology and thus eliminate the retention of food and debris and cause a decrease in the count of viable bacteria in the pit or fissure. The optimal time for sealant application is as soon as possible after the eruption of susceptible teeth, usually within the first 12 months. Rubber dam isolation is the preferred method of moisture control, although occasionally, it may be necessary to employ an alternate method. The tooth should receive a pumice-water slurry prophylaxis to remove gross debris. Etchant solution should then be applied, rinsed thoroughly, and sealant material applied. Fluoride treatment should be performed after sealant application.

b. Criteria

(1) No adverse clinical signs or symptoms (category 2).

(2) Only sealant products accepted by the American Dental Association should be used, and the sealant should be applied following the manufacturer's instructions (category 1).

(3) All susceptible pits and fissures are protected by sealant material (category 1).

(4) No excess sealant material exists on the gingiva or the surfaces of the teeth (category 1).

(5) Sealant exhibits proper retention and resistance to removal (category 1).

(6) No voids are apparent or detectable on the surface of the sealant (category 1).

(7) Surface of sealant is uniformly smooth (category 1).

(8) Sealant does not interfere with normal occlusion (category 1).

(9) The tooth-sealant junction is not detectable or scarcely detectable with an explorer (category 1).

PROSTHODONTICS

1. Introduction

a. Definition of Prosthodontics. Prosthodontics is that branch of dental art and science pertaining to the restoration and maintenance of oral function and related structures by the replacement of missing teeth and associated structures by artificial devices. The practice of prosthodontics includes complete dentures, removable partial dentures, crowns and fixed partial dentures, maxillofacial prosthetics, and prosthodontic laboratory services.

b. General Considerations

(1) The area of prosthodontics involves the treating of patients with damaged or missing natural teeth and surrounding structures including the treatment of congenital, traumatic, and surgical defects of the head and neck. The treatment is usually undertaken for aesthetic and functional benefits. This is best accomplished by the conservation and protection of the tissue which remains. The prosthodontist must render a comprehensive diagnosis of the partially or fully edentulous mouth using all of the diagnostic aids available to assemble a treatment plan. The prosthodontist must either personally accomplish whatever mouth preparations are necessary or delegate to his colleagues such specialized services as surgical, periodontal, and endodontic treatment. The prosthodontist must undertake whatever impression procedures are necessary and must be primarily responsible for the accuracy of any casts of the mouth upon which work is to be fabricated. The prosthodontist must provide the laboratory technician with an adequate prescription in the form of diagrams and written instructions. The prosthodontist must be solely responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of any jaw relation records. Finally, the prosthodontist must be competent to judge the excellence of the finished restoration or recognize its inadequacies. The prosthodontist as the laboratory officer should reject inadequate work from the dentist and respectfully suggest whatever improvements are necessary for an acceptable prosthesis.

(2) The philosophy of prosthodontic treatment is based on the belief that it is a health service rather than a mere mechanical procedure. The prosthodontist must focus on the correlation between the basic sciences, treatment planning, and clinical procedures. The selection of materials and style of occlusion must correlate to the existing oral conditions and meet the aesthetic and functional needs of the patient.

2. Complete Denture Procedures

a. Introduction. A complete denture is a dental prosthesis which is a substitute for the lost natural dentition and associated structures of the maxilla and mandible.

b. Complete Denture

(1) Procedure. A complete denture is a removable prosthesis which replaces all of the missing teeth in either the maxilla or the mandible or both arches. The soft tissues should be in a healthy or physiologic state before construction of dentures is initiated. The prosthesis should: (1) be functional to include mastication and phonetics; (2) be aesthetic both to the patient and the clinician; (3) demonstrate retention and stability consistent with anatomical limitations; (4) have a stable occlusion; and (5) be comfortable within a short period of time following adequate postdelivery adjustments.

(2) Criteria

(a) Aesthetic Appearance

1. The denture harmonizes with the patient's facial appearance (category 2).

2. The positioning, shape, size, and the shade of the teeth appear natural (category 2).

3. Vertical dimension of occlusion is within acceptable range of normality (category 2).

4. The color and the shade of denture base material should appear natural (category 2).

(b) Stability and Retention. Must be evaluated relative to the supporting tissues as presented by the patient.

1. Dentures should not loosen or displace as teeth are occluded (category 2).

2. Maxillary denture remains seated in a passive state (category 2).

3. Mandibular dentures should remain seated upon slight opening when tongue is resting against anterior lingual surface (category 2).

4. Dentures should not exhibit a noticeable rock as light finger pressure is applied side to side (category 2).

(c) Complete Denture Base

1. Dentures should exhibit peripheral seal and should cover the primary and secondary support area (category 2).

2. Mandibular denture base should extend distally to include the retromolar pad (category 1).

3. The denture base material should adapt closely to the soft tissue, without evidence of inflammation or ulceration (category 1).

4. The denture base should be aesthetic in form, contour, color, or shade to conform to the anatomy of the patient's mouth (category 2).

5. The denture base material must be correctly processed and properly polished (category 1).

(d) Occlusion

1. Centric occlusion should be in harmony with centric jaw relation (category 1).

2. The prosthesis should provide bilateral simultaneous contact exhibiting no interferences during closure (category 1).

(e) Speech Criteria

1. Acceptable to the patient (category 2).

2. Adequate phonation (category 1).

3. Dentures should be free of contact during speech (category 2).

(f) Vertical Dimension of Occlusion

1. Provide adequate facial support (category 2).

2. Within physiologic tolerance of the patient (category 1).

3. Dentures do not touch or click during speech (category 2).

(g) Soft Tissue Response to the Prosthesis

1. The prosthesis should not cause pathology of the oral tissues (category 1).

2. Patient should be able to function with the prosthesis without discomfort (category 2).

(h) Postinsertion Care

1. Followup care must be provided (category 1).

2. Patient should be free of discomfort (category 2).

3. Patient must be instructed in proper oral and denture home care (category 1).

c. Overdentures

(1) Procedure. Overdentures are complete dentures placed over retained teeth or remaining roots. They should be stable and retentive under functional loading and present an acceptable aesthetic appearance. Generally indicated where four or fewer teeth remain.

(2) Criteria

(a) Denture should not rock over retained roots (category 1).

(b) Periodontal health of the retained abutment should not be compromised by trauma or impingement from the prosthesis (category 1).

(c) Selection of abutments should be based upon sound physiological and mechanical principles (category 1).

(d) Retained teeth should be restored to a well-contoured surface (category 1).

(e) There must be adequate strength of denture base material over retained abutments (category 1).

(f) Denture base should contact retained root only on the top of the root with no contact of the vertical walls (category 2).

d. Immediate Denture

(1) Procedure. An immediate denture is a transitional complete denture inserted at time of surgical removal of

remaining teeth. Prosthesis may duplicate original dentition or it may be designed to more ideally position teeth and improve aesthetics and function. Dentures serve as replacements for teeth during healing. Compromises may be acceptable. As healing progresses, dentures will be relined, rebased, or remade. Close followup care is required.

(2) Criteria. Criteria will not differ from that used in all complete denture therapy.

3. Removable Partial Dentures

a. Introduction. A removable partial denture is a prosthesis which replaces some, but not all, of the remaining teeth in the maxilla, mandible, or both arches. The prosthesis is retained in the mouth by fixation to teeth through extracoronal clasping systems or intracoronal mechanical devices. Stability is an essential requirement for removable partial dentures. The quality of the prosthesis prevents movement in a horizontal direction in function. To achieve this quality, the prosthesis should not interfere with movable tissues, it should have positive support, and the occlusion should not interfere with natural tooth guidances. Two categories of removable partial dentures are recognized. Those whose support is derived solely from abutment teeth and those whose support is derived from abutment teeth and from the residual soft tissue. Primarily, the purpose of this prosthesis is to preserve soft tissue health and prevent shifting of remaining natural teeth. In addition, they should maintain or improve mastication, aesthetics, and phonetics.

b. Criteria

(1) Mouth Preparation

(a) Adequate space for rests should be made in the teeth (category 1).

(b) Parallel guide planes should be made to ensure adequate retention and stability (category 2).

(c) Mouth preparation in natural teeth should be in enamel or appropriate restorative materials (category 2).

(2) Framework

(a) Adequate number of rests should be made in the teeth (category 1).

(b) The proximal plates should be in contact with the teeth (category 1).

(c) All connectors are rigid (category 1).

(d) The bracing components are in contact with the teeth (category 1).

(e) Retention adequate to resist reasonable dislodging forces (category 1).

(f) No surface porosity exists in the metal framework (category 2).

(3) Denture Base

(a) No significant surface porosity exists (category 1).

(b) Denture base flanges should be adequately extended to provide intimate tissue contact (category 1).

(c) The denture base should be contoured to be compatible with soft tissues (category 1).

(4) Prosthesis

(a) The prosthesis should not cause patient discomfort during function (category 1).

(b) The patient can insert and remove the prosthesis without difficulty (category 2).

(c) The artificial teeth do not interfere with normal functional movements (category 1).

(d) The prosthesis should not cause tissue irritation (category 1).

(e) There should be proper contour of the metal and acrylic resin (category 1).

(5) Aesthetics and Phonetics

(a) Both the esthetics and phonetics should have patient acceptance (category 2).

(b) The prosthesis supports the phonetic and the functional requirements of the patient (category 1).

(6) Occlusion. Simultaneous, bilateral contact should occur in centric closure with the natural and artificial teeth (category 2).

(7) Post-operative Treatment

- (a) Favorable tooth and tissue response (category 1).
- (b) Routine followup care must be provided (category 1).
- (c) Patient advised of proper home care (category 1).

4. Crowns and Fixed Partial Dentures

a. Introduction. Fixed prosthodontics is the art and science of restoring one or more damaged or missing teeth and cannot be readily removed by the patient or dentist. Fixed prostheses and crowns are permanently attached to natural teeth or roots which furnish the primary support.

b. Single Unit Prosthetic Restoration

(1) Procedure. A crown is a cemented veneer restoration which replaces the morphology, function, and contour of the damaged coronal portions of a single tooth.

(2) Criteria

(a) Margins

1. No discernible space exists between the restoration and the preparation (category 1).

2. An acceptable transition exists between tooth structure and the restoration (category 1).

(b) Occlusion

1. Prosthesis does not prevent contact of other dentition (category 1).

2. Contact of prosthesis with opposing occlusion (category 2).

3. Cross-tooth and cross-arch balancing contacts should not exist on the restoration (category 2).

4. Abnormal situations may alter some of the above.

(c) Proximal Contact

1. Proper anatomic location (category 1).

2. Demonstrated contact with adjacent tooth when appropriate (category 1).

(d) Contour

1. Anatomy in harmony with existing dentition and soft tissue (category 2).

2. Marginal ridges should provide an acceptable transition to adjacent teeth (category 2).

(e) Aesthetics

1. Aesthetics of prosthesis has patient acceptance (category 2).

2. Harmony of size, shape, and surface texture when compared to the existing dentition (category 2).

3. Harmony of value, hue, chroma, and characterization when compared to the existing dentition (category 2).

c. Fixed Partial Denture

(1) Procedure. A fixed partial denture is a prosthetic appliance, permanently attached to remaining teeth, which replaces a missing tooth or teeth. A tooth serving as an abutment for a fixed partial denture is called an abutment. The artificial tooth suspended between the abutment teeth is the pontic. The pontic is connected by retainers which are restorations that are cemented to the prepared abutment teeth.

(2) Criteria

(a) Margins of Retainers

1. No discernible space exists between the restoration and the preparation (category 1).

2. An acceptable transition exists between tooth structure and the restoration (category 1).

(b) Occlusion

1. Prosthesis does not prevent contact of other dentition (category 1).

2. There is adequate contact of prosthesis with opposing occlusion (category 2).

3. Balancing contacts should not exist on the restoration (category 2).

(c) Proximal Contact

1. Proper anatomic location (category 1).
2. Demonstrated contact with adjacent tooth when appropriate (category 1).

(d) Contour

1. Anatomy in harmony with existing dentition and soft tissue (category 2).
2. Marginal ridges should provide an acceptable transition to adjacent teeth (category 2).

(e) Aesthetics

1. Aesthetics of prosthesis has patient acceptance (category 2).
2. Harmony of size, shape, and surface texture exists when compared to the existing dentition (category 2).
3. Harmony of value, hue, chroma, and characterization is evident when compared to the existing dentition (category 2).

(f) Pontics

1. Pontics cause no blanching or depression of the edentulous ridge (category 1).
2. Interproximal, facial, and lingual embrasures do not impinge on the natural form of the soft tissue (category 1).
3. Connector area is of adequate size to create rigidity of the prosthesis (category 1).

d. Acid Etched, Resin-Bonded, Fixed Partial Dentures (AERBFPD). When accomplished properly, the AERBFPD is a useful treatment modality for replacing missing teeth, especially a single missing tooth. However, potential dangers associated with debonding indicates the need for strict adherence to protocol. Generally, AERBFPDs are not recommended for personnel whose duties include flying, underwater diving, or the use of intraoral devices to receive breathable gases. However, each case is a separate entity and must be so evaluated. In select cases, the

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use of this prosthesis for flying and diving personnel may be accomplished within narrow diagnostic and clinical parameters.

(1) Procedure. An AERBFDP is a prosthesis, permanently attached to the abutment teeth, which replaces a missing tooth or teeth. The prosthesis is attached to the abutment teeth by either an acid etch composite resin luting material or by an adhesive resin luting cement.

(2) Criteria

(a) Case Selection

1. Abutments which contain sufficient enamel for etching procedures (category 1).

2. Abutments that are non-carious or have small carious lesions within the bonding area that do not infringe upon (2)(a)1, above (category 1).

3. Abutments with adequate periodontal support (category 1).

4. Short edentulous spans (category 1).

5. Abutments are of sufficient length to provide tooth structure for adequate parallelism of proximal walls, groove length, etc., for resistance form in the preparation (category 1).

6. Anterior centric occlusion contacts at or incisal to the junction of the incisal and middle third of the lingual surface of the teeth (category 2).

(b) Occlusion

1. Pontic area should have only centric occlusal contacts (category 1).

2. Posterior pontics should be restricted to vertical forces (category 1).

(c) Preparation (Anterior)

1. Adequate lingual reduction (0.3 - 0.5 mm) (category 1).

2. Distinct (one) path of insertion with guidance from proximal walls adjacent to edentulous area (category 1).

3. Distinct chamfer gingival finish line
(category 1).

4. Definitive vertical stop (cingulum notch,
rest, or shallow pothole) (category 1).

5. Definitive buccolingual lock (proximal wrap-
around, proximal grooves) for resistance form (category 1).

6. Maximum area coverage for bonding of
retainers on abutment teeth (category 1).

(d) Preparation (Posterior)

1. Distinct (one) path of insertion on proximal
and lingual walls of abutment teeth (category 1).

2. Definitive buccolingual lock (proximal wrap-
around, proximal grooves) for resistance form (category 1).

3. Maximum area coverage for bonding of
retainers on abutment teeth (category 1).

4. Positive occlusal rest (category 1).

(e) Metal Preparation

1. Strict adherence to manufacturer's
instructions if adhesive resin cements are used for cementation
(category 1).

(f) Delivery

1. Rubber dam isolation (category 1).

2. Proper enamel etch (category 1).

3. Complete seating of restoration (category 1).

4. No movement during cementation (category 1).

5. Removal of all excess cement (category 1).

e. Dowel (Post) and Core Restorations. A dowel (post) is a root canal restoration placed into a prepared space coronal to a more apically located root canal filling. A dowel creates a retentive base for the construction of a core superstructure upon which the restorative dentist is able to construct a final restoration. Certain dowels may be used as a direct retainer for a final restoration when used without an additional core.

(1) Dowel (Post)

(a) Procedure. A dowel or post is indicated for additional retention in teeth where the remaining natural tooth structure is insufficient for construction of the final restoration. Dowels may be actively or passively retained, but are used in conjunction with an accepted cementing medium. The dowel is placed after an acceptable root canal filling material, which produces an acceptable apical seal, has been placed.

(b) Criteria

1. No adverse clinical signs or symptoms
(category 1).
2. The dowel is confined to the root canal
(category 1).
3. The dowel occupies at least 50 percent of the root length (category 2).
4. There are no perforations or root fractures
(category 1).
5. There is an acceptable seal in the apical portion of the root canal (category 1).

(2) Core

(a) Procedure. A core is a constructed super-structure that provides needed resistance, retention, and geometric form to the compromised coronal aspect of a tooth. The core can be made with cast metals, amalgam, or composite materials. Cores may or may not be used in conjunction with dowels

(b) Criteria

1. No adverse clinical signs or symptoms
(category 1).
2. The core is adequately retained (category 1).
3. The core occupies the entire pulp chamber
(category 1).
4. The core does not perforate the pulp chamber floor (category 1).
5. The occlusal aspect should allow for adequate occlusal thickness of the final restoration (category 1).

6. If a crown will cover the core, the final contour of the core must be based on prosthodontic principles of preparation for retention of a crown and may require a diagnostic wax-up against an opposing occlusion (category 1).

7. If a pin retained core is selected, the pins must be located within the proposed core (category 1).

8. The margins of the crown or retainer should extend beyond the margin of the core onto natural tooth or root structure (category 2).

5. Maxillofacial Prosthetics

a. Introduction. Maxillofacial prosthetics is the art and science of anatomic, functional, or cosmetic reconstruction by means of nonliving substitutes of those regions in the head or the body that are missing or defective because of surgical intervention, trauma, pathology, or developmental or congenital malformation.

b. Intraoral Prostheses. The intraoral prostheses for the maxillofacial patient that are delivered as fixed partial dentures or removable dentures (partial and complete) should be judged and evaluated with the same criteria used under the respective categories for each prosthesis. Specific modification of these procedures will follow with their criteria:

(1) Speech Aids

(a) Procedure. Palatopharyngeal deficits may result from congenital malformations such as cleft palate, from developmental aberrations such as a short hard or soft palate, from acquired neurological deficits, or following the surgical resection of neoplastic disease. The objective of a speech aid is to reestablish palatopharyngeal integrity to provide the potential for acceptable speech. A palatal lift and a tongue prosthesis are examples.

(b) Criteria

1. The prosthesis improves speech (category 3).
2. The prosthesis should not cause pathology (category 1).
3. The prosthesis causes minimal interference with swallowing (category 2).

(2) Maxillary Obturator

(a) Procedure. The stability and retention standards for conventional removable partial dentures will not apply to

this prosthesis due to the size, the location of the defect, and the lack of bony support. The occlusion over the defect should be minimal. The prosthesis will aid the patient in speech, deglutition, and decrease the amount of fluid leakage to the nose during use.

(b) Criteria

1. Assists the patient in speech and deglutition as residual anatomical structures dictate (category 2).
2. Fluid leakage into the nose decreases (category 1).
3. Prosthesis does not cause pathology (category 1).
4. Stability and retention as residual anatomical structures dictate (category 2).
5. Light contact in maximum closure occurs when occlusion is present over a defect (category 2).
6. Acceptable to patient (category 2).

(3) Partial Mandibulectomy Prosthesis

(a) Procedure. Disabilities resulting from resections of the mandible include impaired speech, articulation, difficulty in swallowing, deviation of the mandible during functional movements, poor control of salivary secretions, and severe cosmetic disfigurement. Restoration of function is usually not possible and prolonged disfigurement is inevitable in patients following mandibular resection. The partial mandibulectomy prosthesis should aid or guide the remaining portion of the mandible to a fairly consistent relationship with the maxilla (as much as the surrounding tissues will allow).

(b) Criteria

1. Aids or guides the mandible to an acceptable relationship with the maxilla (category 2).
2. Maximum occlusal contacts as permitted by the movement of the remaining mandible (category 2).
3. Prosthesis does not cause pathology (category 1).
4. Acceptable to patient (category 2).

c. Extraoral Prostheses - Somatoprotheses

(1) Procedure. Patients with facial defects that cannot be repaired with surgery for various reasons may require an extraoral prosthesis. Each facial defect is different in size and location, the postsurgical results, and the nature of the remaining soft and hard tissue and therefore can affect the results of each prosthesis differently. Under close scrutiny, a prosthesis will be seen because no material can replace natural tissue. The objective of the prosthesis is to provide enough concealment to render the defect inconspicuous or prevent undue attention when the patient goes out in public. Successful patient use of the restoration may also depend on psychologic acceptance of the prosthesis.

(2) Criteria

(a) Materials

1. Must be compatible with the tissues (category 1).
2. Must have sufficient durability (category 2).
3. Must be compatible with adhesives when indicated (category 2).

(b) Aesthetics

1. Acceptable to patients (category 2).
2. Should restore the contour of the missing tissues as the remaining anatomical structures dictate (category 2).
3. Shade of prosthesis should be compatible with adjacent tissues (category 2).

(c) Margins of the Prosthesis

1. Should closely approximate the adjacent tissues as the remaining anatomical structures dictate (category 1).
2. Should allow for adequate adhesion, mechanical retention, and tissue movement as anatomical structures dictate (category 2).

d. Ocular Prostheses

(1) Procedure. An ocular prosthesis provides a cosmetic replacement for ocular defects, either congenital or acquired. Depending upon the remaining anatomic structures, the ocular

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prosthesis should be positioned to allow for a compatible neutral gaze and for maximum physiologic movement. A prosthesis with little or no movement should not be considered less than adequate, but assessed according to function of residual tissue and implant bed.

(2) Criteria

(a) Location and Movement

1. Has a compatible neutral gaze (category 2).
2. Allows for maximum physiologic movement as anatomical structures dictate (category 2).

(b) Aesthetics

1. Acceptable to patients (category 2).
2. Should approximate the contralateral eye relative to sclera tint, pupil size (in normal indoor lighting), iris size, and color (category 2).
3. Lid contour and opening are compatible with contralateral eye as remaining structures dictate (category 2).

e. Implant Prostheses

(1) Procedure. The objective of implants is to improve appearance or protection; hence the requirements of the material vary depending on the site and nature of the defect. The implant prosthesis should be made from a material that is tissue-compatible and lends itself to a means of sterilization.

(2) Criteria

- (a) Must be compatible with the tissue (category 1).
- (b) The prosthesis can be sterilized when indicated (category 1).

f. Post-operative Appointments

(1) Procedure. Postoperative care must be provided and the patient should have a reasonable number of postoperative appointments to have a satisfactory transitional time to become accustomed to the new prosthesis as well as to evaluate the tissue response.

(2) Criteria

- (a) Patient is given the opportunity for postoperative care (category 1).

(b) Patient instructed in the use and care of the prosthesis (category 1).

6. Prosthodontic Laboratory Services

a. Introduction. The prosthodontic laboratory is a supporting facility which fabricates prostheses following a written prescription.

b. Cases Received

(1) Procedure. Cases received are those cases accepted from requesting dental facilities that conform to and are submitted following a written laboratory instruction.

(2) Criteria

(a) The dental laboratory work authorization must be properly completed following the laboratory instruction and signed by the dental officer (category 1).

(b) Impressions should be accurate and free of voids in critical areas (category 1).

(c) Crown and bridge impressions should display margins that are identifiable under visual examination (category 2).

(d) All master casts must present as:

1. Being dense, accurate, bubble free replications (category 1).

2. Being trimmed following laboratory guidelines (category 2).

3. Having tripod marks, survey lines, and retentive areas, indicated when submitted for removable partial dentures (category 2).

4. Having a carved or functional palatal seal area before processing a maxillary prosthesis (category 2).

5. Having dies that present with identifiable margins and are trimmed following the laboratory guidelines (category 2).

6. Having a positive and accurate means of being articulated (category 2).

(e) Diagnostic casts should be presented as:

1. Dense, accurate, bubble free, replications (category 2).

2. Having a partial denture design drawn when submitted for fabrication of a removable partial denture framework (category 2).

3. Having a placement index for a tube tooth, following the laboratory guidelines (category 2).

c. Cases Fabricated

(1) Procedure. Cases fabricated are those cases completed by the laboratory technician in the laboratory facility that conforms to the work authorization and constructed following established laboratory guidelines.

(2) Criteria

(a) The technician will follow all instructions as indicated on the work authorization form (DD 2322) (category 1).

(b) Stone casts must be:

1. Dense, accurate, and bubble free replications (category 1).

2. Trimmed according to the established laboratory guidelines (category 1).

(c) Dies must:

1. Have pins properly placed (category 1).

2. Be properly sectioned following laboratory guidelines (category 2).

(d) Custom trays must accurately follow the work authorization and be smooth and devoid of sharp edges (category 1).

(e) All castings should be fabricated following the work authorization and the laboratory guidelines (category 1).

(f) Castings should be free of bubbles on internal surfaces and be finished following the dictates of the work authorization and the laboratory guidelines (category 2).

(g) All castings should fit the die or master cast with no visual discrepancies (category 1).

DENTAL IMPLANTOLOGY

1. Introduction

a. Definition of Implantology. Implantology is that treatment modality which replaces missing oral structures with synthetic materials and devices which are surgically embedded in the soft or hard tissues of the oral cavity. These materials and devices are used to support and attach dental prostheses without compromise of health, function, comfort, or aesthetics of the hard or soft tissues or the patient.

b. General Considerations

(1) Dental implant procedures are categorized into three distinct groups as defined by the ADA.

(a) Endosseous Implants. Artificial abutments placed through the gingiva into bone. Includes osseointegrated implants and can be used singly or in multiples. Includes two general types: blades and cylinders. Blades are used along with natural teeth to support partial and complete arch fixed prostheses; they are not self-supporting and not used for single tooth replacements. Cylinders, if osseointegrated, can freestand and support individual, multiple, and full-arch replacements. Also used in conjunction with natural teeth for complete and partial fixed and removable restorations including overdentures.

(b) Subperiosteal Implants. A metal framework cast to fit a replica of the mandibular bony arch formed from a direct impression of the bone or a computer-generated model and placed beneath the periosteum in close apposition to the bone and may be attached to the bone with intraosseous screws. The prosthesis to restore function is totally supported by the subperiosteal implant which distributes occlusal forces throughout the alveolar ridge. The prosthesis may be a fixed or partial removable prosthesis or a complete removable prosthesis.

(c) Transosseous Implants. Submandibular stabilizing bone plate with retaining posts which pass through mandibular bone from inferior border to alveolar crest; stabilizes and retains a tissue-borne full arch prostheses, but is not in itself a loaded implant. Staple implant is the only transosseous device in common use.

(2) Implantology must be viewed relative to long-term success which is based on standard ADA criteria to include: inflammation, pocket formation, bone loss, mobility, and patient comfort.

(3) The implant must be biologically acceptable and compatible with the hard and soft tissues, which through healing and remodeling gradually adapt to their new function.

(4) Implant systems, techniques, and procedures must be selected based on documented research, published success rates, and training of the specialists.

(5) Implantology as a clinical discipline can only be performed in those sites authorized by the Assistant, Chief for Dentistry, as implemented by the Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, and following the guidelines listed below:

(a) Performed by specialists (oral surgeons, prosthodontists, and periodontists) who are privileged in implantology.

(b) Specialists who wish to be privileged in implantology must submit to their respective accrediting committee proof of residency training in implant techniques or attendance at comprehensive continuing education training courses in implant dentistry.

(c) An implantology protocol must be developed for each authorized training facility.

(d) All cases selected for treatment will be treatment planned by an implantology task force team.

(e) Prosthodontic rehabilitation of these cases must be performed by a privileged prosthodontist who is a member of the task force team, but does not have to be assigned to the authorized teaching facility.

(f) Adequate documentation of all patients must be maintained by the teaching facility. Data on each system used must be submitted annually to the specialty advisor for implantology. Documentation of training must also be submitted to the specialty advisor.

(6) Implantology involves two distinct phases of treatment, a surgical phase and a prosthodontic rehabilitation phase.

2. Treatment Planning

a. Introduction. All cases selected for treatment will be treatment programmed by an implantology task force team. The task force team will be composed of, at a minimum, the specialist privileged in the surgical placement of implant fixtures (i.e., a periodontist or an oral surgeon, and a prosthodontist). The

biomechanical requirements demand that treatment be carried out with all team members working in close collaboration. For the implant to be successful, a combination of correct methodology, adequate instrumentation, and collaboration of specialists must be realized. This will require an effective basic organization and overall coordinated treatment plan.

b. Preliminary Examination

(1) Procedure. To determine if the patient is a suitable candidate for implants, review all health records, and complete oral and psychological examinations, including appropriate radiological examinations.

(2) Criteria. The patient's record should reveal a review of health records, a complete oral examination, radiographic examination, results of psychological evaluation, a treatment plan, and informed consent (category 2).

3. Surgical Phase

a. Procedure. Following appropriate pre-operative care of the patient, the mucoperiosteal tissue or alveolar bone is prepared to receive the implants. The implant device or material is placed using appropriate surgical care to avoid unnecessary insult to the tissues. Appropriate tissue closure is performed. Post-operative care is rendered as appropriate. Healing phase will vary with each implant system.

b. Criteria

(1) Surgical technique follows protocol established for this system (category 1).

(2) Surgery consistent with standards of care for oral surgery (category 2).

4. Healing Phase

a. Procedure. All post-operative care and maintenance must follow guidelines for each system employed relative to the interim prosthesis, and time delay before definitive prosthodontic therapy can be initiated.

b. Criteria

(1) Soft tissue should maintain physiologic contour and a healthy appearance without infection, inflammation, or swelling. Soft tissue should be asymptomatic (category 2).

(2) Diagnostic evaluation should include radiographs which are consistent with type of implant system employed. No radiolucencies around implant, no measurable bone loss or appearance of encapsulation (category 2).

(3) If implant is a subperiosteal type, implant should feel firm and stable to digital examination (category 2).

(4) If implant is an endosseous type of implant, implant should be stable without mobility and should be firmly attached to bone (category 2).

5. Prosthetic Interim Treatment

a. Procedure. An appropriate interim prosthesis is provided for the patient during the healing phase. Timeframe for placement of the interim prosthesis and wear will be dependent upon implant system selected.

b. Criteria

(1) Interim prosthesis provides adequate function and comfort for the patient during healing (category 2).

(2) Interim prosthesis does not interfere with the healing phase as predicted for each system (category 2).

6. Prosthetic Rehabilitation

a. Procedure. Prosthetic rehabilitation must be in concert with that recommended for the type of implant system employed. Prosthetic rehabilitation may be of the fixed or removable type of prosthesis.

b. Criteria

(1) Function and aesthetic of the dentition restored according to standards of care for prosthetic therapy (category 1).

(2) Occlusal forces are evenly distributed and controlled so that implant/host tissue integrity is not compromised. (category 2).

(3) The gingival tissue must not be adversely effected by the implant prosthetic prosthesis (category 1).

(4) Prosthesis must permit adequate oral hygiene (category 1).

(5) Prosthesis must afford comfort for the patient (category 2).

7. Maintenance Therapy

a. Procedure. Followup care is given at periodic intervals to ensure that the implant and the prosthesis provides the patient with long-term health, function, and aesthetics.

b. Criteria

(1) Tissue complications such as gingivitis, a fistula, or a mobile or connective tissue encapsulated fixture, have been intercepted and corrected (category 1).

(2) Periodic radiographic examination has been performed to assess the condition of the bone and implant (category 1).

(3) Repair or replacement of the prosthesis to be accomplished as needed (category 1).